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'ARAFAT ADDRESSES PUBLIC RALLY ON REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

NC032007 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to Arab World 1640 GMT 3 Jan 80 NC

[Speech by PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat at a public rally held on 3 January in 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp near Sidon in Lebanon on the 15th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution--recorded]

[Excerpts] The Camp David conspiracy has failed. The war of attrition they waged against us in the south has failed. In that war they used all kinds of modern U.S. weapons, including those that are internationally banned. [applause and cheers] Yes, brothers, the greatness of the Lebanese-Palestinian steadfastness in the war of attrition--and before it in the 8-day war--has taught a lesson to Begin, As-Sadat and their master Carter. They used Phantoms, F-15's, F-16's and internationally banned bombs. What else do they have? I tell them in the name of the heroic Lebanese and Palestinian peoples: Welcome, use all the weapons; o mountain, you cannot be shaken by the wind. [applause and cheers]

This camp is not the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp; it is the Ma'ruf Sa'd camp [after a Lebanese national movement leader killed in Sidon just prior to the Lebanese civil war]. The Al-Miyah Wa Miyah camp is the Kamal Junblatt camp [after Druze and national movement leader killed on 16 March 1977]. As of today, we announce in the name of these masses that this camp is called the Ma'ruf Sa'd camp and the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah camp is called the Kamal Junblatt camp. [cheers and applause]

We are waging a protracted, popular liberation war, whose decisionmaking is Palestinian and governed by two rifles only--the Lebanese and the Palestinian. [applause] I am saying this to show the importance of this Lebanese-Palestinian cohesion, which is governed only by the Lebanese and Palestinian rifles.

I am saying this to all those who are trying to encroach on Palestinian decisionmaking. They think that Palestinian decisionmaking is worth a few barrels of oil. They think they can tame the Palestinian revolution and the national movement by withdrawing funds from us, as Al-Qadhdhafi said yesterday. [Several words indistinct] I want to tell him that we in the Palestinian revolution have fighters who can tighten their belts and do not need your money or oil. He must know that the Lebanese-Palestinian blood is dearer than his oil.

I want to tell the Palestinian and Lebanese fighters that a revolution without a people protecting it is a bandit.

We must raise to the level of responsibilities thrown on our shoulders in this revolution and in this national movement. This is because the plots of the Deuxieme Bureau [Lebanese intelligence service] want to drive a wedge between you and the people. You must be alert to these plots.

The agent As-Sadat has taken Egypt out of the Arab nation's trench. However, I tell you: The Egyptian Army will not revolt. [as heard] I am saying this so that As-Sadat may hear me. The Egyptian Army will not revolt. At the same time, we understand what it means for Egypt, with its weight and influence, to leave this battle and join the trench of the enemies. However, the wonderful thing is that the alternative has come, represented in the Imam Khomeyni's revolution. [applause] This is very important brothers. This revolution turned the area's standards upside down. It defied the United States and its fleets.

'ARAFAT MEETS WITH PALESTINIAN, JOINT FORCES COMMANDS

NC300745 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab world 0530 GMT 30 Dec 79 NC

[Excerpts] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, presided over two meetings in Sidon yesterday. The first meeting was attended by the commanders of military units and ranks of the Fatah movement in the south. The second meeting was attended by the members of the joint command of the nationalist movement and the Palestinian resistance in the south.

At the first meeting Brother Abu 'Ammar spoke about the political situation in the area, especially after the victories scored by the PLO in the Palestinian arena.

At 1500 Brother Abu 'Ammar held his meeting with the members of the joint command. The conferees studied the situation in Lebanon, the meetings of the quadripartite committee, the latest UN resolution renewing the UNIFIL mandate and the Arab situation in general. Discussion also dealt with the developments in Iran and Afghanistan and their effects on the situation in the area. Abu 'Ammar reaffirmed the Palestinian revolution's support for the Iranian Revolution with all its material and moral resources. At the end of the meeting, Brother Abu 'Ammar emphasized that the fateful alliance between the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese nationalist movement is the strongest and most honorable alliance in modern Arab history.

BEIRUT: ARAB, LEBANESE COMMITTEES CONTINUE CONTACTS

NC031420 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Dec 79 NC

[Text] The Arab followup committee and the competent ministerial committee have decided to continue the discussions being held with the various parties concerned in Lebanon for the purpose of transforming the resolutions passed by the 10th Arab summit conference into active steps, particularly in handling the situation in the south.

At around 0945 today, President Ilyas Sarkis presided over the meeting of the Arab followup committee and its affiliated ministerial committee. The meeting assessed the results of the contacts and consultations of the two committees up to the present.

The meeting was attended on the Lebanese side by Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss, Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus, Defense Minister Joseph Skaf, and Finance Minister Dr 'Ali al-Khalil. The Arab followup committee was represented by the ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Gen 'Ali ash-Sha'ir; the ambassador of Kuwait, 'Abd al-Hamid al-Bu'ayjan; and the representative of the Arab League, Hammadi as-Sid. Absent from the meeting was Syria's representative on the committee, Col Muhammad Ghanim. The meeting was also attended by the commander of the Arab Deterrent Forces, Brig Gen Sami al-Khatib.

The committee's meeting lasted until 1130. Afterward, Minister al-Khalil [was interviewed] and said: [begin recording]

[Question] Your excellency, Mr Minister; how do you assess the results of the meeting of the quadripartite committee today?

[Answer] The quadripartite committee and the ministerial committee have given his excellency the president and his excellency the prime minister an overview of the contacts being held and their outcome. Furthermore, the two committees have assessed the results achieved. At this meeting we prepared a program for the moves to be made by the quadripartite committee and the competent ministerial committee. We hope to make some progress, on the understanding that a session will be held in the palace next Saturday in the presence of both his excellency the president and his excellency the prime minister.

[Question] Concerning the contacts to be made by the committee between this and the upcoming meetings, have [word indistinct] been defined with all the parties concerned?

[Answer] At this stage, the committee will hold contacts with the influential parties concerned in the south.

[Question] Only?

[Answer] At this stage only. If need be, contacts will later be held with other parties when we begin to discuss the other provisions and ways to implement those provisions agreed on by the Tunis conference and included in the Tunis conference resolutions.

[Question] As you know, Mr Minister, the Lebanese need something tangible and practical as the result of the successive meetings of the followup committee. Have you hitherto attained something tangible?

[Answer] This is what we are striving for. First, we want to transform preliminary positions into political attitudes. Having achieved positive political stances, we will then move on to putting them into practice. [end recording]

In answer to a question, the Arab League representative on the committee, Hammadi as-Sid, affirmed that the Arab followup committee is cohesive and in agreement on everything. He said that [only one] committee member attends any of the meetings. This means that he is empowered by the committee to represent everybody.

PLO OFFICIAL SOURCE DISCREDITS LIBYA'S PLO COMMITTEE

NC031750 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 3 Jan 80 NC

[Text] A PLO official source has stated the following: The Libyan news agency disseminated a false report on the so-called PLO Political Committee in Libya and on an alleged cable it sent to the so-called People's Congress in Libya. The PLO is interested in pointing out that it has no knowledge of this committee and will not accredit it. No one can impose representatives on the Palestinian people to speak on their behalf. Such attempts definitely serve the Camp David plot and the autonomy plan, which is rejected by the Palestinians and nurtured by the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary trio of Camp David.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR EL AL KILLING CLAIMED

JN031900 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1838 GMT 3 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Beirut, 3 January--An organization called "the sons of the land" has claimed responsibility for the killing of Avraham (Eliazar), head of a Zionist company office in Istanbul last night.

In a statement released in Beirut today the organization says it has sentenced the Zionist (Eliazar) to death because of the importance of his role in the Zionist espionage network in Turkey. The statement said the Zionist (Eliazar) was one of the planners of the assassinations of Palestinian resistance leaders.

VOP REPORTS QADDUMI INTERVIEW WITH LEBANESE PAPER

NC300801 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 30 Dec 79 NC

[Excerpts] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, has stated that he expects new initiatives will be made at the United Nations in the new year aimed at underscoring the inalienable rights of the Palestinian Arab people. He also expressed hope that the new year will see the final collapse of the Camp David plot and all the partial and unilateral agreements.

Commenting on As-Sadat's expection of violent events in the Arab world, Abu al-Lutf said these events will be against Camp David and against the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, and they may reach Egypt itself.

Abu al-Lutf said this in an interview with the newspaper AN-NIDA' on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution.

On relations with Libya, he said the revolution held contacts with Syria, the PDRY and Algeria for the purpose of mediation. He added that the Palestinian revolution is interested in normal relations. He emphasized that unless the measures taken in Libya are canceled, relations between the two sides will not return to normal.

Our Arab relations, he said, are governed by two factors: The collective resolutions and the attitude toward Camp David.

Brother Abu al-Lutf said the PLO, Syria, the PDRY and Algeria held consultations with the aim of resolving the Palestinian-Libyan issue. He added that the question of convening a meeting of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation and a general Arab meeting to discuss the entire Arab situation, including Palestinian-Libyan relations, is under consideration.

Bilateral issues, he said, can be discussed at foreign ministers level and there is no need for a summit to discuss them.

KUWAIT

AL-QABAS REPORTS INCREASE IN LIQUID GAS PRICE

ID040816 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0709 GMT 4 Jan 80 LD

[Excerpt] Kuwait--The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS reports today that Kuwait has raised the price of liquid gas by about 12 percent as of the beginning of this year. Quoting responsible sources at the Ministry of Oil the newspaper said the average price of a metric ton is $304 instead of $264 as a result of the new increase.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM SEES U.S.-SOVIET CONNIVANCE IN AREA

ID040905 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 2 Jan 80 pp 1, 19 LD

[Editorial: "Horizons of the Eighties and Potential Dangers in the Peninsula and the Gulf"]

[Excerpts] We all know well that since U.S. presidential National Security Adviser Brzezinski came up with the term "the arc of crisis" extending from Afghanistan to Arab North Africa on the Atlantic this area has become a region of earthquakes.

Certainly the indications are that the Gulf area in particular will not be spared the effects of the increasing tremor, be it because of the sudden Soviet invasion of Afghanistan or as a result of the interactions of the Iranian situation and potential developments in the U.S.-Iranian crisis.

Obviously the situation, in the midst of the present U.S. and Soviet saber rattling, points to a deep potential explosion, especially on both sides of the Gulf in the light of the fact that the Iranian earthquake will not calm down since Iranian internal forces have been unleashed and the road to stability is no longer in sight.

The superpowers are bound to exploit these conditions to the maximum. In occupying Afghanistan the Soviets have probably taken a practical step toward insuring that they can have a major hand in determining the fate of the area. Meanwhile, the Americans have continued sending their fleets and building their bases in order to continue playing their well-known role and to prevent the Russian bear from devouring more than they imagine it should or than has been "agreed" upon.

The Americans are speaking out against the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in the hope that they will be able to mute the Islamic feelings against them which have recently heightened, particularly after the embassy operation in Tehran. It is probably for this reason that they have hastened to show this "concern" for Islam and declared that they would lend support to the Islamic revolution in Afghanistan--support which the Americans know is harmful for those who accept it and those who agree to it.

Otherwise, what in reality and in practice is the difference between the Soviet presence in Afghanistan and that in South Yemen or Ethiopia if the Americans are really and seriously fighting against this presence in the area and this wall that is being erected around it?

Can a country the size of the United States really be unaware of the motives behind the crushing Soviet advance toward the Arab Gulf area and be unable to repel it or confront it if it does not, under the terms of a high-level trade-off, consider this the Soviets' "right" and the Soviets share in return for U.S. exploitation and disposal of Arab wealth in order to secure its own oil and Israel's?

Therefore, we can see how the two superpowers mutually extort the Arabs in a terrible alternation of roles: It is as if they pay "commission or brokerage" to one another. Thus we can see in this astonishing scenario events that are beyond comprehension. Can one not understand why this U.S.-Iranian "war" as broken out or how and why the United States continues to humiliate all the Arabs and Muslims for the sake of Israel while on the other hand it raises its voice in "defending" injured Islam in Afghanistan?

There is no reason for astonishment. The major powers have no principles or ethics. It is up to the small nations to learn how to defend themselves and up to the Arabs in particular to reach a level at which they can distinguish between black and white.

OMAN

EGYPT'S MUBARAK ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE FOR SULTAN QABUS

NC031852 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Jan 80 NC

[Excerpts] Muscat, 3 Jan--Vice President Husni Mubarak and his accompanying delegation arrived in Muscat at 1400 today on a visit to the Sultanate of Oman.

On his arrival, Mubarak said that he was carrying a message from President as-Sadat to Sultan Qabus of Oman. He said that during his meeting with Sultan Qabus they would discuss important issues. He will brief Sultan Qabus on developments concerning the primary issue of the Palestinian cause.

Immediately after his arrival Mubarak went to the Royal Palace, where he held a meeting with His Majesty Sultan Qabus attended by the Egyptian delegation. Mubarak and Qabus then held a closed meeting, which lasted well over 90 minutes. Mubarak is scheduled to conclude his visit to Oman on Saturday.

SAUDI ARABIA

FOREIGN MINISTER ON SOVIET ACTS IN AFGHANISTAN

LD031132 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1035 GMT 3 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal conferred today at his ministry with Arab and Islamic ambassadors accredited to Saudi Arabia.

His highness explained to the ambassadors how much the king is concerned about the flagrant Soviet military interference in the internal affairs of the Muslim people of Afghanistan and the interest of his majesty's government in the grave situation arising from this.

His highness stressed at the meeting that the question demands that the Arab and Islamic nation stands united on the side of the fraternal Muslim people of Afghanistan within the framework of consultations and exchange of views among Arab and Islamic governments. The meeting was attended by Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri, Foreign Ministry under-secretary for political affairs, and by a number of ministry officials.

ISLAMIC ENVOYS CONDEMN 'TREACHEROUS SOVIET AGGRESSION'

LD031508 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1210 GMT 3 Jan 80 LD

[Excerpt] Riyadh--A number of ambassadors of Arab and Islamic countries accredited to the kingdom have condemned the treacherous Soviet aggression against Afghanistan and have expressed their concern over the adverse consequences which may result from this aggression. They praised the kingdom's stance and initiatives in supporting the various Arab and Islamic issues.

The remarks came in statements made by the ambassadors following their meeting with Foreign Minister His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal.

AR-RIYAD CONDEMNS SOVIET UNION, CALLS FOR UN ACTION

LD031553 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 31 Dec 79 p 16 LD

[Khalid Muhammad Bashwayah article: "With the Days"]

[Excerpts] With time it is becoming clear to the world that the Soviet Union is playing the role of a policeman dominating unarmed peoples in order to impose its control and spread the principle of communism even if at the expense of peoples and states. What has happened in Afghanistan recently represents a continuation of communism's suspect movement. Although this movement began in the Czechoslovak events of 1968, it has since continued through the bridgeheads that Soviet communism has been establishing in the world. In Africa the role of the Soviet Union is evident in its blatant interference in the African countries' affairs and its obvious plans to sow sedition among the African peoples. What happened in Zaire is still fresh in the world's memory and the tragedy of the Horn of Africa has affected the safety and security of the area.

In the Arab area communism is a stumbling block to cohesion among the Arab regimes. Soviet communism paints a picture of the area different from the picture of unity and solidarity to which it is accustomed. It has established itself in some of the Arab countries under a misleading guise with the aim of dominating the area and subjecting it by force to the Kremlin rulers' ambitions.

The fact we must underline with regard to Afghanistan is that what has happened was not in implementation of a treaty of friendship, as some communists would like to allege, but a military occupation with force of arms because Karmal's coup came in the wake of suspicious Soviet troop movements either against the rebels or to pave the way for this coup. A world power has occupied another state by military force in this 20th century while the world is expressing objections only through statements that are futile vis-a-vis the might of the Kremlin leaders who have appointed themselves the guardians of small nations. Russia is now occupying Afghanistan and it is not unlikely that it will annex it to the Soviet provinces. The world community will object only as much as it did in connection with Eritrea in Africa and Cambodia in Asia.

We here urge the world and the world's free powers to reconsider their ties with the Soviet Union. Let the world community break its silence so that it can cut this power down to size and limit it to its ideological and political boundaries so that it will not be the cause of world destruction.

The United Nations must take firm measures against the Soviet Union in order to isolate it from the world community as a punishment for its actions that violate the UN Charter entirely, even if this should necessitate dismantling the world organization and rebuilding it anew, away from communist influence. The world community must stand as one man in the face of the Kremlin rulers so as to make them realize that the path they are pursuing is fraught with dangers to world peace and security.

It remains for the Arab countries that deal with Moscow to revise their policy if they really wish to achieve higher Arab interests, because reality has proved that the present Arab differences are caused by the mines that the Soviet Union plants on the road to solidarity and cohesion in confronting the enemy of the area. What has happened in Afghanistan is a lesson that we must learn well, since trust in Moscow cannot exist under the policy of hegemony with which they want to dominate the world and its destinies.

4 Jan Editorials

JN040723 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY 0740 GMT 4 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Riyadh, 4 Jan--In today's editorial, the Saudi newspaper AL-JAZIRAH denounces the blatant Soviet military intervention in the internal affairs of the Muslim Afghan people.

AL-JAZIRAH calls on the Arab and Islamic nations to adopt a unified position in opposition to the flagrant Soviet aggression, to protect the Islamic heritage and holy places. The paper warns that the continuation of the Soviet aggression in Afghanistan will threaten world peace. It may lead to a third world war.

The Saudi newspaper UKAZ also condemns the blatant Soviet violation of the principles of human rights, noting that they are committing murders in an international community that seeks stability.

UKAZ praises the Saudi polity that rejects the use of hegemony by the superpowers in dealing with peoples.

4 Jan Press Review

ID040838 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0530 GMT 4 Jan 80 ID

[Excerpts] Riyadh--The Saudi newspapers today call for unified Islamic action in the face of the Soviet military aggression in Muslim Afghanistan and the elimination of its consequences. The newspapers reaffirm that the solidarity and unity of the Islamic nation is the only way to stand firmly in the face of the communist danger. The newspapers also call on the world, particularly the superpowers, to shoulder greater responsibilities toward the preservation of world peace. They also call for the adoption of severe measures and deterrent sanctions against the Soviet Union for its flagrant intervention in Afghanistan.

AL-JAZIRAH says that no one doubts that the aim behind the Soviet aggression in Afthanistan and other Islamic states is to strike at the Muslims, subjugate them, eradicate their belief and destroy their Islamic culture.

DJIBOUTI PRESIDENT PRAISES RELATIONS WITH KINGDOM

LD011154 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1010 GMT 1 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 1 Jan--President of the Republic of Djibouti Hassan Gouled lauded the role played by the kingdom in both the Arab and Islamic worlds.

President Gouled, in a statement to AL-MADINAH published today, expressed his thanks and appreciation for the kingdom's stand as a strong barrier against destructive forces and principles trying to infiltrate the Arab and Islamic world. He also praised the support the kingdom has been giving to his country ever since its independence. He said that this support contributed toward easing the burdens resulting from achieving independence.

President Gouled described relations between the kingdom and Djibouti as historical and based on the Islamic faith and the common destiny.

President Gouled talked about the situation in the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea area. He described it as a cause for concern, resulting from the intervention by foreign forces and the penetration of destructive indeologies into the area. He affirmed that the struggle between the major powers in the area leads to the creation of an atmosphere of instability in the area. He said that the struggle to which the Horn of Africa is currently exposed is part of a comprehensive plan behind which lie numerous dangers to the area as a whole.

President Hassan Gouled advocated that there should be some kind of cooperation and coordination between the states of the area to safeguard stability in this sensitive part of the world. He also called on the states of the area to solve their differences by peaceful means and said that Djibouti's extremely important strategic position enables it to play a prominent role in establishing stability in the area.

President Gouled affirmed his condemnation of the Camp David agreements and said that Djibouti has severed its diplomatic relations with Egypt to demonstrate its condemnation of the agreement and to show solidarity with fraternal Arab states which rejected the outcome of the agreement and the consequent weakening of Arab unity.

UAE

FATAH OFFICIAL ARRIVES IN ABU DHABI 3 JAN

JN030748 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0735 GMT 3 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Jan--Fatah Central Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, arrived here today on a visit of several days to the UAE. During the visit, Abu Mazin will hold talks with UAE officials on the latest developments in the Palestinian issue and on bilateral relations.

Meeting With 'Abdallah

JN031105 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1015 GMT 3 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Jan--UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah and Fatah Central Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, have reviewed the latest developments in the Palestinian issue and the situation inside occupied Palestine.

During his meeting with 'Abbas, Rashid 'Abdallah was briefed on the Palestinian viewpoint on PLO-Libyan differences. The Palestinian official, who arrived in Abu Dhabi earlier today within a tour of several states in the region, pointed out that the PLO is now awaiting the outcome of the current Syrian-Algerian mediation efforts to settle the differences, end the campaigns between the two sides and normalize the situation.

Statement on Dispute With Libya

JN041050 Doha QNA in Arabic 0940 GMT 4 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 4 Jan--Fatah Central Committee member Mahmud Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, who is currently visiting Abu Dhabi, has said that he is carrying a message to His Highness UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The message deals with the Palestinian-Libyan differences, the situation in the Arab arena and bilateral relations.

In a statement today, Abu Mazin expressed the Palestinian revolution's readiness to attend any meeting aimed at solving the dispute with Libya, provided that Libya stops intervening in Palestinian affairs and limits itself to giving the Palestinians financial support if it wishes. He affirmed that the reason for the dispute was the Libyan stand calling for the establishment of popular committees inside the PLO offices--a move that opposes the existence of the organization and the Palestinian people's will. Abu Mazin expressed the hope that the Syrian-Algerian mediation will succeed in normalizing relations between the Palestinian revolution and Libya.

Abu Mazin arrived in Abu Dhabi from Saudi Arabia yesterday, as part of a tour of several states in the region, to explain the Palestinian revolution's position on the dispute with Libya.

BRIEFS

SAUDI APPOINTMENTS--Riyadh, 31 December--Five royal decrees were issued in Riyadh today. The first decree provides for the termination of the services of Lt Gen As'ad 'Abd al-'Aziz az-Zuhayr and placing him on pension. The second decree provides for his appointment at the Foreign Ministry with the rank of ambassador. The third decree provides for the termination of the services of Lt Gen 'Ali Majid Qabbani and placing him on pension, while the fourth decree provides for his appointment at the Foreign Ministry with the rank of ambassador. The fifth decree provides for the appointment of Shaykh Amad Khalifah Matar as director general of the Saudi airlines organization with a distinguished grade. [Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1100 GMT 31 Jan 79 LD]

ADDITIONAL SAUDI APPOINTMENTS--Riyadh--Five royal decrees were issued in Riyadh today. The first terminates the services of Gen Fayiz Muhammad al-'Awfi and places him on pension. The second appoints him as advisor at the Interior Ministry with the rank of distinguished grade. The third decree stipulates the transfer of Gen 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd ar-Rahman Al Shaykh, director general of the border guard corps, and appoints him as director general of public security. The fourth decree transfers Gen Muhammad ibn Hilal, commander of the special security forces, to the post of director general of the border guard corps. The fifth decree transfers Maj Gen Muhammad ibn Mani' al-Balla' assistant director general of the border guard corps, to the post of commander of the special security forces. [Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1140 GMT 1 Jan 79 LD]

KHALIL INTERVIEWED ON MIDDLE EAST, AFGHANISTAN

NC040940 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0750 GMT 4 Jan 80 NC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 4 Jan--Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil, in an interview published in today's issue of AL-AHRAM, deals with the facts and dimensions of the situation and events in the Middle East--especially after the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, which is really aimed at the Arab Gulf and the oilfields.

The prime minister begins by talking about the negotiations on the normalization of Egyptian-Israeli relations. He says that acceptance of the principle of a peaceful settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict did not come about during President as-Sadat's initiative or after the Camp David negotiations. This principle, he says, was accepted after the 1967 war when the Arabs accepted UN Resolutions 242 and 338, as well as the idea of a Geneva conference.

In his interview with AL-AHRAM, Prime Minister Khalil says that, according to the Egyptian-Israeli agreement, the exchange of ambassadors between the two countries will take place on 26 February. He notes that the negotiations on Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza are proceeding in accordance with the agreement reached in this respect. The exchange of ambassadors, he says, is a natural move toward comprehensive and durable peace in the Middle East. Dr Khalil adds: There is nothing strange about exchanging ambassadors according to schedule. How can the Arabs renounce their decision on the peaceful settlement of the conflict when they sit side-by-side with Israel and its ambassadors in all international forums. How can they establish peace with Israel if peace is not going to lead to an exchange of ambassadors?

The prime minister then discusses the tragedy of Afghanistan. He describes the Soviet military intervention there as a flagrant aggression against an Islamic state which has the strongest links and interests with the Arab world. He emphasizes that the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan is living proof that the Soviet Union rejects the right of every nation to choose the form of government it deems fit; it is further proof that the Soviet regime is but an extension of the colonialist czarist regime, although it hides behind socialist principles.

The Soviets, Dr Khalil says, just like the czars before them, turn situations in other countries upside down and use their agents in these countries, not to serve the interests of these countries but to serve their own. He adds that the use of Soviet tanks and artillery to impose a certain government on the Afghan people by force is a repetition of what happened in Hungary and Czechoslovakia, and a continuation of what is happening in East Europe.

The prime minister affirms that the Soviet aggression against Afghanistan makes it incumbent upon all states to condemn the Soviet action and to call for the withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan. He adds: If we accept this armed intervention in the affairs of other states as legitimate then the Third World, and even the Second World, will be lost to those coveting it.

Dr Mustafa Khalil asserts that Soviet's occupation of Afghanistan encourages both the elements of instability inside Pakistan and elements hostile to the government of Ziaul Haq; it also encourages the extreme leftists there to create an armed conflict with the Arab Gulf and the oilfields as the target.

He adds that the Soviet Union will have an energy crisis in the eighties and instead of seeking other sources of energy peacefully, it is now following the same old colonialist and present imperialist way to control the oilfields. The occupation of Afghanistan, Dr Khalil says, constitutes a direct threat to all the Arab states, especially in the Arab Gulf.

He points out that the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan should serve as a warning to the Arab states neighboring South Yemen and prompt them to take precautions in preparation of what might be repeated there. The Soviet intervention, he says, is also a threat to Bab el-Mandeb and is an extension of the Soviet attempts at armed infiltration in Africa and its attempt to encircle Sudan--a matter which should not be met with silence.

Dr Khalil calls on the Arab states to urgently increase their defensive capabilities, discard their differences and draw up an immediate strategy for dealing with these dangers.

He emphasizes that the army of Egypt is indispensable to maintain stability in the region and ward off the dangers which may threaten it. He adds that if the Arab states return to their senses, they will realize that Egypt's army is the only one that can defend these states--with the help of other friendly states. Egypt's strategic position, its domestic stability, together with the strong Egyptian Army constitutes a cornerstone in the struggle between the two giants in the Middle East; it shows that should the Arab states seek help, they can only seek it from Egypt, he says. He adds that this proves to the United States that Egypt's power is essential for the stability of the region at present. This is why, he continues, Egypt has announced its intention to provide facilities for the friendly states, should other states be subjected to any military aggression.

In the interview, Dr Mustafa Khalil also discusses the deteriorating situations in Syria and Iraq, particularly after Imam Ayatollah Khomeyni's declaration that the rulers of the Arab states in the Gulf area are ruling against the will of their people, by which Khomeyni meant the Shi'ite majority in these countries. He adds that this [Khomeyni's statement] is an open incitement to the Shi'ites there to topple these regimes. He points out that this includes Iraq, especially after the friction with Iran and the statements made by the Iraqis which show the degree of danger threatening them.

Referring to Syria, Dr Khalil says that there is a kind of collective rejection of the 'Alawite minority rule in Syria.

ISLAMIC SOCIETIES APPEAL TO WORLD TO SAVE AFGHAN MUSLIMS

NC040650 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2257 GMT 3 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 3 Jan--Millions of worshipers will say prayers tomorrow, Friday, at all mosques in Egypt for the repose of the souls of the Muslim martyrs in Afghanistan.

It has been decided to form a committee to collect cash donations or aid in kind to help the families of the Afghan martyrs who fell victim to the Soviet invasion.

At its final session today, the conference of the heads of the Islamic societies in Egypt recommended the submission of strong protests to all embassies, the United Nations, world parliaments, news agencies and papers urging the world conscience to adopt a serious and just stand.

The conference appealed to the kings and heads of the Islamic states to discard their differences and hold an Islamic summit conference to save Islam in Afghanistan.

The conference appealed to the governments in the Islamic world and to the people to boycott the Soviet Union economically, politically and culturally, and to open the door for recruits to participate, together with the Muslim strugglers in Afghanistan, in repulsing the Soviet aggression.

BASIC PRICE OF OIL FIXED AT $26 PER BARREL

JN031356 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1344 GMT 3 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 3 January--Citing a responsible source at the Ministry of Oil, the magazine ALIF BA says that Iraq has decided to fix the basic price of Iraqi oil at $26 per barrel as of 1 January 1980. The source said that the prices of Iraqi oil will range from $24.65 to 27.50 per barrel, according to locality and quality.

TEHRAN REPORTS ATTACKS BY IRAQI PESHMERGAS

JN031830 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Jan 80 JN

[Text] PARS reports that disturbances and clashes have occurred in Iraqi governorates inhabited by Kurds and in border areas. PARS says that these disturbances have occurred during the past 2 weeks in Halabjah and As-Sulaymaniyah. Some 10 days ago Iraqi Peshmergas attacked Anab camp, 2 km from Halabjah, with artillery and other weapons. Thirty minutes later five helicopters landed at the camp to transfer the dead or wounded to Iraqi towns.

On 18 December a group of Peshmergas issued a statement thanking the citizens of Halabjah for organizing demonstrations and strikes in protest against the Iraqi Ba'thist regime.

PARS also reports that an attack was launched on the Ba'th Party branch headquarters in (Hayy as-Sadiq) in the governorate of As-Sulaymaniyah. The attack resulted in the death of the chief of the party's branch and those accompanying him.

Latest reports say that a policy station in (Kolizalim) between Sayyid Sadiq and Halajah was attacked 5 days ago. The attack resulted in the death of five of the police station's guards.

COMMENTARY ON SOVIET INTERVENTION IN AFGHANISTAN

JN031209 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 3 Jan 80 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 3 January--The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH has stated that interference in the internal affairs of others and the wish to impose hegemony on small states and peoples constitute one of the most prominent rules adhered to by the superpowers.

In a series of articles that it begins today under the headline "What Results do the Soviet Union and the World Expect Following the Soviet Intervention in Afghanistan?" ATH-THAWRAH adds: Such a rule has either been the superpowers' impetus from the beginning, the inevitable result of special factors or was developed under various covers and justifications.

The paper points out that both the United States and Soviet Union have come to the forefront, just as they were the two major victorious powers in World War II. The paper adds: However, the division of the spheres of influence in the world between these two sides has not eliminated the conflict between them. Rather, it adds, the superpowers' character was changed and their plans and desires altered.

ATH-THAWRAH states that the beginning of the Soviet entry into the region and the Arab homeland came about at the same time as the entry of the "Eastern" weapons and that the strong relationship between Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir and the Soviets played its role in expanding Soviet influence, since Jamalsujabd an-Nasir was a progressive pan-Arab hero and a religious believer.

This relationship was a serious beginning, leading to a rift in the psychological barrier that used to separate the Arabs from the Soviet Union and communism, a barrier that held despite the injustice that the West perpetrated against the Arabs' rights. Indeed, despite this, the Arabs continued to note in one way or another that the Soviet Union was a communist state.

The paper cites the circumstances accompanying the 5 June 1967 war and its consequences and the October War and its consequences. The paper says that the Americans contained a lot of political and military consequences of the 1973 war and that, due to timing, this war was free of Soviet influence. The paper adds: The Arabs have recently become greatly aware of the need to recognize the link between possession of sophisticated weapons and the requisites for using these weapons in military operations on one hand, the cultural development on the other.

The paper says that the Arabs, with special understanding, are aspiring to large-scale economic and social development. Thus, it goes without saying that the Soviet Union is neither capable of nor ready to respond to the Arabs' development needs, not even to those capable of paying in cash and hard currency.

REPORTS ON IRAQI, DJIBOUTI TALKS IN BAGHDAD 3 JAN

JN031223 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Jan 80 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 3 January--Official talks between Iraq and Djibouti began here today. The Iraqi side was led by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and the Djibouti side was led by Moumine Bahdon Farah, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

Taha Yasin Ramadan reiterated Iraq's desire to develop relations and economic cooperation between the two countries, in an attempt to boost the Arab nation's capabilities. He also asserted Iraq's readiness to contribute in developing Djibouti's economy, deepening relations of economic cooperation and implementing several development projects in the fraternal country.

The Djibouti foreign affairs and cooperation minister praised Iraq's pan-Arab stands in support of Djibouti's independence, pointing out Iraq's moral and material support for the achievement of that independence and its willingness to participate in developing agricultural and industrial resources thereafter.

A joint technical committee derived from the talks will draft an agreement for technical and economic cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

It is to be recalled that the Djibouti delegation is visiting Iraq with President Hassan Gouled, who arrived in Baghdad yesterday.

HUSAYN HEADS CABINET MEETING; 1980 BUDGET DISCUSSED

JN031009 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 3 Jan 80 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 3 January--It was announced here today that the appropriations for the ordinary budget and the investment program for the year 1980 amount to 8.89 billion dinars, which is equivalent to $30.28 billion.

A responsible Finance Ministry official has affirmed that the appropriations for the investment program amount to 5.24 billion dinars, a 23.3 percent increase over last year's investment program, which amounted to 3,283 billion dinars.

The appropriations for the ordinary budget amount to 3.65 billion dinars, a 14 percent increase over last year's ordinary budget appropriations, which amounted to 2,616 billion dinars.

The cabinet held an expanded 5-hour meeting yesterday, under President Saddam Husayn, to discuss the budget.

In a speech during the meeting, President Saddam Husayn stressed the need to give free rein to our hands and minds, to enable them to work and create freely.

President Saddam Husayn said that during the next 5 years, some imbalance would be noticed, including an imbalance among the various sectors of the state due to rapid development, which will be manifested in social ailments.

President Saddam Husayn added that Iraq's status is unbearable to others, since Iraq deviates from the standards and traditions that are adhered to in relations between the superpowers and small states.

President Saddam Husayn pointed out that the prevailing phenomenon in the international community is that the small states are either subservient to or agents of the superpowers. Thus, he added, Iraq is an exception to this rule, since it is its own master and deals with all states in accordance with generally acknowledged norms.

President Saddam Husayn added that Iraq reiterates its position daily and annually, since it is an immutable stand. He added that Iraq refuses to reconsider its course, but will heed observations as to how this course can be strengthened and rendered more effective, or will note any defects in capabilities or potentials, in order to render this course more effective in international circles and in Arab politics.

MINISTER OF STATE COMMENTS ON JERUSALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY

JN021259 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Jan 80 JN

[Text] Hasan Ibrahim, minister of state and head of the executive office for affairs of the occupied territory, said in commenting on the Israeli Government decision to purchase the Jerusalem Electric Company concession: This decision is not founded on any legal basis. It is a new attempt by the occupation authorities to dominate Jerusalem and its surrounding villages so as to consolidate its settlement policy and its continuing aggression against the rights of Arab citizens and Arab and Muslim rights in the city.

He added: This decision is a clear violation of UN resolutions on Jerusalem and existing laws. Therefore, the Jordanian Government will seek to support the stand of the Jerusalem Electric Company and the rights of its shareholders in the competent international quarters so as to stop the implementation of this decision and so that the company can continue to carry out its successful tasks and serve the citizens.

Memo to Jordan, PLO

JN030900 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 3 Jan 80 p 17 JN

[By Nabil Amru]

[Excerpts] Brig Gen 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya, director of the PLO Political Department, [title as published] has announced that the PLO will spare no effort to abort the Zionist plot to dominate the Arab Jerusalem Electric Company.

In an exclusive interview with AD-DUSTUR, Brig Gen 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya said: The Zionist occupation forces' decision to seize the Arab Jerusalem Electric Company is not a new action directed against the holy city or against all of Palestine. Rather, Zionist thought, upon which the occupation state is founded, is based on Judaizing all of Palestine.

Brig Gen 'Abd ar-Razzq Al-Yahya added: The settlement plan is a policy adopted by the Zionist occupation in order to attain their aims and, accordingly, the Zionist forces' seizure of the Arab Jerusalem Electric Company is part of the scheme aiming at completely Judaizing Jerusalem.

Brig Gen 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya continued: This procedure clarifies the nature and the general motives of the Zionist occupation, particularly its settlement aims. At this point I must point out that the settlement issue is closely linked to the motives behind the so-called autonomy, for they are merely two parts of one comprehensive plot to clear the land of its legitimate owners and to Judaize it.

Late last night, AD-DUSTUR was informed of a memorandum sent by Anwar Nusaybah, chairman of the Jerusalem Electric Company board of directors, which will be submitted to the Jordanian Government and the PLO today.

In the memorandum, Anwar Nusaybah expressed the deep astonishment of the citizens of Jerusalem and the occupied territory at the Zionist occupation forces' decision to seize the holy city's electric company.

Anwar Nusaybah said in his memorandum that the Israeli authorities have resorted to this measure in order to apply pressure on the company for reasons that are not clear, adding that the most significant of these reasons is political. Anwar Nusaybah said that by applying such pressure, the Zionist authorities hope to bargain with the company for part of its concessions, as it has previously done.

Nusaybah is seeking to have the issue raised at the International Court of Justice, adding that the company will refer the case to the Israeli Supreme Court, though realizing that the Israeli court acts in accordance with Israeli laws.

VOL REPORTS ON ENTRY OF IRANIANS, SOVIETS, CUBANS

NC031404 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 3 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Interior Minister Shaykh Bahij Taqiy ad-Din has received some security reports regarding the entry of Iranian volunteers into Lebanon. A security source has told the Voice of Lebanon that these volunteers carry Palestinian military cards with officer rank. Mohammad Montazeri, who holds the title ayatollah [word indistinct], carries a lieutenant colonel's card issued by Fatah.

Today, Montazeri visited Iranian volunteers in the combat school near the Beirut airport road. He watched training on the use of arms and made a speech about the reasons for sending volunteers to Lebanon. He confirmed that some volunteers are already receiving military training in Lebanon. He said he had visited training camps in Al-Biqa' and that the number of Iranian volunteers [in Lebanon] has reached 225.

Meanwhile, an official source has told the Voice of Lebanon that the government is serious about resorting to legal measures to expel Montazeri from Lebanon. The same source spoke about the difficulties which prevent the arrest of Montazeri since he moved to the Palestinian camps.

According to Arab diplomatic sources in Beirut, 45 Cuban and Soviet experts have arrived in Lebanon by way of Al-'Urqub. One Arab diplomatic source has confirmed that these experts are now in Beirut and that five experts came to Beirut via Cyprus and were driven [from the airport] in a car belonging to the As-Sa'iqah organization. Their passports were not even submitted to the security desk at the airport.

VOICE OF LEBANON: MONTAZERI TO VISIT DAMASCUS

NC040738 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 4 Jan 80 NC

[Text] The Iranian volunteers' leader, Mohammad Montazeri, still has not left Lebanon, contrary to yesterday's reports on his secret departure. A source close to the volunteers has stated that Montazeri will leave Beirut today for Damascus.

HADDAD: MONTAZERI THREATS SHOULD BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY

NC041100 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1000 GMT 4 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Yesterday, Free Lebanon leader Major Haddad attacked the statements made by Montazeri at his press conference in Beirut. Major Haddad cautioned that Montazeri's threats should be taken seriously. Major Haddad said that Montazeri had stated, "I will enter Lebanon," and he did enter it.

Major Haddad added: Despite this, the threats create no fear because free Lebanon knows how to deal with them. Eyewitnesses say that the advance parties of the [Iranian] volunteers have joined the saboteurs' positions in Al-'Urqub and in the An-Nabatiyah area.

MAURITANIA

GOVERNMENT WELCOMES UN INITIATIVE ON AFGHANISTAN

AB031940 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 3 Jan 80 AB

[Summary] The government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania has welcomed the initiative taken by the United Nations to condemn the events which took place recently in Kabul, Afghanistan. This was disclosed in a communique issued yesterday afternoon by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. According to the communique, the government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania considers the affair to be extremely serious and hopes that the independence and the sovereignty of Afghanistan will be safeguarded.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN, BOUCETTA DISCUSS AFGHAN EVENTS

LD032054 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 3 Jan 80 LD

[Excerpt] The king presided over a working meeting attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation M'hamed Boucetta and royal cabinet advisers Ahmed Reda Guedira and Ahmed Bensoudah. The meeting was devoted to the serious and disturbing events taking place in Afghanistan and possible developments and complications which may ensue. The king decided to contact the secretary general of the Islamic Congress and its members for consultation on this matter.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI'S INDEPENDENCE DAY ADDRESS REPORTED

JN311515 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1448 GMT 31 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 31 December--In his address to the citizens on the occasion of the independence day this evening, President Ja'far Numayri announced that Sudan will remain the mainstay and support for the Arab right until the people of Palestine return to their homeland and set up their state and until Arab Jerusalem is returned as it was.

President Numayri added: The next phase dictates on us to continue our struggle within the forces liberating Africa until the last stronghold of colonialism, racial discrimination and foreign intervention on our continent has collapsed. We must support the nonalined movement and we must keep our pledge to be a force of friendship, solidarity and peace.

DEMONSTRATION PROTESTS USSR'S AFGHAN INTERVENTION

NC031528 Paris AFP in English 1520 GMT 3 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Khartoum, Jan 3, (AFP)--Demonstrators marched on the Soviet embassy here today and burned Soviet flags in protest at Moscow's intervention in Afghanistan.

During the peaceful demonstration, the protestors, who were accompanied by large forces of police, distributed pamphlets attacking Kremlin policies and handed over a memorandum addressed to Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev demanding that Soviet troops be pulled out.

The intervention showed that the Soviet Union had been deceiving the peoples of the world who were struggling for liberty and peace, the memorandum said. "The Soviet intervention is aggression against the Islamic masses," the memorandum added.

Another memorandum addressed to leaders of Islamic states was distributed by the demonstrators asking them "to stand firmly against Soviet military intervention and against elimination of Islamic Afghan people by Soviet armies."

Student Demonstrations

LD031905 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Jan 80 LD/EA

[Text] The Omdurman Islamic University Students Union and the Islamic orientation [as heard] at Khartoum University this morning staged a protest demonstration against Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. Several thousand students took part.

They expressed their support for the struggle of the Muslim Afghan people and urged the Islamic world to take a firm stand against the invading Soviet forces and extend support to the Afghan revolutionaries. A protest march was organized through the main streets of the capital.

At 1130 the student demonstration, in which students at higher secondary schools in the capital also took part, reached the Soviet embassy compound, where student leaders made speeches of condemnation and the demonstrators burned Soviet flags which they had brought with them. They shouted slogans condemning Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and declared their support for the just struggle of the people of that country.

Several student representatives entered the Soviet embassy compound and handed a memorandum of protest and condemnation to embassy officials. The memorandum stressed that the USSR's intervention in Afghanistan had revealed all the pretence and guile which it had been using to deceive the peoples of the world who are fighting for freedom and peace. It made it clear that the USSR's flagrant intervention in Afghanistan was an act of aggression against the Muslim masses.

The security forces stopped the student demonstration some distance from the embassy compound to prevent the embassy from being stormed or any damage being caused. This put an end to the demonstration. There was no serious damage, but some pictures hanging on the compound walls were destroyed.

During the demonstration the students distributed pamphlets condemning the Soviet system and chanted slogans expressing support for the Muslim Afghan people. The included: "No to communism and colonialism!" "Shame, shame, you Soviets!" Placecards were seen carrying the words "Yesterday in Iran, today in Afghanistan, and tomorrow everywhere."

The pamphlets which were distributed included a message to Leonid Brezhnev condemning the invasion, as well as a message to the kings and presidents in the Islamic world, appealing to them to stand firm against the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan and against the Soviet army's extermination of the Muslim Afghan people, and a cable from the Omdurman Islamic University Students Union to the Soviet leader, Brezhnev.

The demonstration, which returned to Khartoum University at about 1330, was controlled by a strong police contingent throughout.

BEGIN COMMENTS ON ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED WITH AS-SADAT

TA041234 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 4 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Today the prime minister went to the president. However, this was not the walk so much desired by the opposition. The prime minister went to report to President Yitzhaq Navon on the issues he would raise with President as-Sadat in their meetings in Aswan at the beginning of next week. Upon leaving the president's residence, our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer spoke with the prime minister.

[Begin recording] [Begin] Of course, I will speak about the normalization of relations. I assume that the question of autonomy will also be raised. One would assume that the situation in the area will also be discussed by us.

[Menashe Raz] Mr Prime Minister, will you discuss more general topics such as the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan?

[Begin] That depends on how the talk develops. I referred to the situation in the area. The situation in this area is not an isolated question. It should be assumed that international questions will also be raised.

[Schiffer] Mr Prime Minister, President as-Sadat announced that he has new proposals for the solution of the East Jerusalem question. Are you carrying any Israeli proposals on this issue? What is your general position?

[Begin] And you want me to give you the answer in advance? Well, our position regarding Jerusalem is known and shared by the entire nation: Jerusalem is the capital of Israel, one indivisible city. We have, by law, assured freedom of access to the religious sites for members of all religions. This will always be adhered to. This is the decisive difference between the situation existing during the Jordanian occupation and the situation created after the liberation and union of Jerusalem. We will listen to what President as-Sadat has to say. This is the correct and justified--and I think it is also accepted by the vast majority of the public and the Israeli nation--Israeli position.

[Schiffer] In your opinion, what is the impact of the incidents in Afghanistan and Asia on the events and developments in this area?

[Begin] The incidents in Iran are very very serious from the international point of view. This is a dark eruption of fanaticism which has returned us to the past. Customs accepted for generations--not only during times of peace but in times of war between nations as well--have been trampled. The situation is continuing. In the telephone talk I had with President Carter I expressed my opinion that we deeply feel this issue, as a result of our experiences.

The incident in Afghanistan is one of the gravest of our times. There are people comparing this incident to the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. This is not a correct comparison. There is a difference: Afghanistan is an independent state, it did not belong to the Soviet circle as Czechoslovakia did. Here, we are faced with the invasion of a regular army, including airborne troops and infantry forces. This is a serious situation. We should all watch it and hope for good.

[Schiffer] Sir, would you also be ready to state it in public: Israel is ready to render air and sea services to the U.S. forces in the area, at present?

[Menashe Raz] Could there be Israeli-Egyptian cooperation on this issue?

[Begin] I assume that this issue might be raised in the talks to be held in Aswan. We said: If there is a U.S. request to receive what is called in English facilities [last word in English]--for example, at the Haifa port--then, I would recommend it to the government. This is a known position. There is nothing new about it. [end recording]

BEGIN MAY BE FLEXIBLE ON POWERS FOR AUTONOMY COUNCIL

TAO41243 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Jan 80 p 1 TA

[By 'Uzi Benziman]

[Excerpts] At the meeting of the Ministerial Committee on Autonomy Affairs yesterday Prime Minister Begin made a remark that was interpreted as an instruction to the interministerial team to expand the powers of the autonomy council beyond those presented to the prime minister.

During the discussion Mr Begin remarked that in fashioning the model and powers of the administrative council one should adhere to the Camp David agreement, where "full autonomy" was promised to the inhabitants. This comment was interpreted as a signal to the interministerial team not to be deterred from expanding the powers offered to the autonomy council. In the discussion the members of the ministerial committee on autonomy affairs made remarks about the spheres of action available to them. The team emphasized that it has not yet completed its task.

Minister Burg observed that Minister Sharon also agrees that the water and land issues must be handled jointly by the autonomy council and the Israeli Government. He also said that without a summit between Begin and As-Sadat it will be impossible to overcome the basic difficulties in the autonomy negotiations. Minister Tamir complained about the leaks from the discussions of the committees dealing with the autonomy negotiations while Sharon retorted that he (Tamir) accuses officials of leaks, which is unfair. Tamir interrupted: I have not said this. Sharon reacted: I ask you--on this issue and always--do not interrupt me when I talk.

After the prime minister returns from his Aswan visit the Israeli and Egyptian teams will continue the autonomy negotiations.

EMBASSY DENIES THREATS TO DELAY SINAI WITHDRAWAL

TAO41141 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 Jan 80 p 3 TA

[By Yuval Elitzur, MA'ARIV correspondent in the United States]

[Text] Yesterday, officials of the Israeli Embassy in Washington firmly denied reports that Israel has recently threatened not to carry out on schedule the withdrawal to the Al-'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line unless an international force--such as the United States has promised to establish in the Israeli-Egyptian peace agreement--is established.

The sources noted that the negotiations, which began on Wednesday[2 Jan] with the participation of Maj Gen Avraham Tamir, was intended to complete the formulation of the U.S. commitments in the supervision agreement and U.S. commitments to establish the force after the withdrawal process is completed, namely, in about 2 and ½ years.

UPON REQUEST, U.S. WILL BE GRANTED USE OF BASES

TA031520 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 3 Jan 80 TA

[Text] If the United States asks to use Israeli bases, the government will consider the request favorably. Our political reporter Shim'on Schiffer learned this from the prime minister's office. Several times in the past, Mr Begin and Mr Weizman have said that Israel would be prepared to render these services to U.S. forces. In the last 24 hours, it has been reported from Washington that the United States was considering making use of either Israeli or Egyptian bases.

COMMENTARY ON WEIZMAN'S ROLE IN U.S. AID TO ISRAEL

TA031212 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Jan 80 p 9 TA

['Uzi Benziman commentary: "The Failure That Is Me"]

[Text] 'Ezer Weizman, whose political nerves are upset with an ease that gives rise to concern, is upset once again; this time over what he interprets as an attack on him by colleagues in the Cabinet and by public opinion in Israel, regarding his efforts to increase American aid to Israel. Weizman has not been back for 24 hours yet and the air is already filled with his wrathful pronouncements along the lines of: "We shall see who manages to get more out of the White House"; "With no foreign minister, and with a finance minister who does not speak English, they send me to talk to the administration, and look at the welcome I get when I come home," and more in the same vein.

There is room here for telling Mr Weizman that he ought to display greater ability in standing up to transient public pressures, and he certainly has no reason to feel attacked, or guilty, because of the limited extent of U.S. aid this year. The defense minister was mistaken in feeling that people are blaming him for the disappointing outcome of his mission or making light of the efforts made by him in Washington. On the contrary, Weizman deserves gratitude: He more or less volunteered to try to obtain from the U.S. administration a greater amount of aid than had been decided upon, and he did everything in his power to fulfil these expectations. It is not Weizman's fault that Jimmy Carter is keeping his hand tightly closed.

The main lesson to be learned from Carter's decision concerning the volume of aid to Israel is the collapse of the assumption that they so love to toy with in Jerusalem--that the presidential election year can be utilized for Israel's benefit. Last week Jimmy Carter proved that thoughts of the Jewish vote do not influence him in his attitude toward the volume of aid to be accorded to Israel. The Israeli Government must obviously take due note of this fact with regard to its forecasts of the extent and nature of U.S. involvement in the autonomy negotiations being conducted during the election year.

Treasury circles, moreover, think that this is the first time that the political echelon in the United States has chosen to ignore the recommendations of U.S. officialdom (who--it is thought in Jerusalem--recognized Israel's economic needs and felt that aid should be increased to $2.3 billion) and decided that the extent of aid should conform to a different set of considerations. For the first time Israel's request was discussed under highly favorable conditions (the unrest in the Middle East, increasing recognition by U.S. public opinion that Israel is a stronghold of democracy and a support for Western interests in this unstable part of the world) and yet Carter acted on quite different considerations.

The decision on the extent of U.S. aid can be construed as a signal from Washington to Israel: Not everything that you feel is a U.S. interest is considered one by us. You have your own estimates of your strategic importance to the West, but we act according to more comprehensive estimates, aimed at curbing Soviet penetration by aiding a none too small group of countries of which you are only one. The time has come for you to lessen your economic dependence upon us: We ourselves are in economic straits of our own. Our political views do not always overlap; you tend to ignore our opinions when they are not to your liking (for instance: on settlements), so do not expect us to come up with a generous response every time. We know that our refusal to fulfil your expectations is tantamount to imposing limitations on your ability to build up your military strength, and we accept this because, in our view, you are in a satisfactory condition where your armaments are concerned (or because we want to pressure you into changing your political positions).

Israel's limited--although by no means unimportant--importance in U.S. eyes thus constitutes the major significance of the outcome of 'Ezer Weizman's Washington visit. Before disappointed Israel starts lamenting out loud, it would do well to bear in mind that $1.8 billion is not exactly peanuts.

While 'Ezer Weizman cannot be held responsible for Carter's decisions, he must nonetheless do some thinking about his own negative contribution to the circumstance of his trip. On the fringes of his visit, between one important and serious meeting and the next, Weizman said certain things that were unnecessary and took some bizarre positions. To express the hope that Carter would be elected President, to declare, in self-diminution, that the United States need not even ask Israel for the use of her bases at a time of need, to radiate an atmosphere of exaggerated friendship and understanding (in the light of the practical results)--all these are moves which a wise statesman would never have made.

'Ezer Weizman often creates the impression of being a man whose mouth does not belong to him but is some sort of harmful germ that has attached itself to his body and makes derisive use of him against his will. People have heard him riviling his own mouth for the trouble it causes him. One might perhaps remind the defense minister that--like style--the mouth makes the man.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: CRITICAL LOOK AT WEIZMAN'S U.S. TRIP

TA011151 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 1 Jan 80 pp 1, 2 TA

[Rom Ben-Yishay article: "Weizman's Aid-Soliciting Trip to Washington: Anatomy of a Failure"]

[Excerpts] Around the 19th and 20th of December, when elements in the Cabinet began promoting the idea of sending Weizman on a persuasion trip to the United States, both the U.S. Ambassador in Israel Samuel Lewis and our Ambassador in Washington Efrayim 'Evron advised against such an initiative. Both explained to senior government officials that the economic situation in the United States does not facilitate a response to the request and the soliciting trip might harm Israel's image and was liable to generate expectations in Israel with almost no prospect of realization.

The Israeli Cabinet did not heed the advice and at its 23 December meeting decided to send Weizman to the United States. The defense minister himself, even though he had not fathered the idea, responded to the prime minister's and finance minister's initiative with enthusiasm.

Immediately after the Cabinet session on Sunday, a little more than a week ago, the two went to phone Ambassador 'Evron and instruct him to prepare the ground and arrange the meetings, including a meeting with President Carter.

The ambassadors' warnings became even more valid as soon as Weizman arrived in Washington. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Defense Secretary Harold Brown hinted with polite diplomatic language to Weizman on Thursday that chances of receiving additional aid were extremely poor. Vance was particularly outspoken in explaining to the defense minister that the United States had cut its aid to numerous needy countries and that the sum allotted to Israel was quite considerable.

While discussing Israeli requirements and U.S. budgetary difficulties precluding a positive response to them, Vance managed to introduce the autonomy issue. In his view, "the approaching summit meeting (between Begin and As-Sadat) in Aswan will be a propitious opportunity to break the deadlock in the autonomy talks." He stressed how much rapid progress on that issue was necessary.

Although the hint was clear, Weizman appeared to have remained optimistic. He hurried on to the Pentagon, where Defense Secretary Brown lent a more attentive and sympathetic ear to his pleadings, but the forecast remained gloomy nevertheless.

There was still one meeting to hold, with the President, on the morrow. Weizman left that meeting in excellent spirits. He made a statement supporting Carter's candidacy for president and told Israeli correspondents how he and Jimmy are fond of each other.

As for the aid, the defense minister was certain that the personal "chemistry" between him and Carter would do the job.

Officials in the White House and Israeli diplomats in Washington believe that Weizman is indeed very popular in the federal capital. But that popularity is not strong enough to make the administration decide against its own interests.

"You don't expect, do you, that in a year in which a negative GNP is predicted in the United States, we shall finance a 4 percent GNP in your country," a senior administration official said yesterday, who thinks that Israel should see in the $200 million of the additional loan an extraordinary U.S. gesture to Weizman.

The same official went on to say: "We could do wonderful things in Bangladesh with $15 million; miracles in Sudan with an additional $100 million, but we did make cuts, because the war on inflation has the highest priority for us now. You receive almost a quarter of our entire foreign aid and you can hardly demand more."

In retrospect, it emerges that the aid issue was one more manifestation of the Israeli Government's unplanned and unconsidered actions, which harmed our image in the United States and brought no economic gain. The very submission of the request totalling $3.45 billion, at a time when the President is tightening the belt, was likely to detract from the seriousness of that request.

When the Defense Minister told the U.S. defense secretary last September that he did not hope to receive the whole sum--and when he repeated this to Barbara Walters, the well known newscaster--the Americans saw well enough that we were not "serious."

The next blunder was Weizman's trip to Washington, despite prior indications that the trip would be in vain. That trip managed to reaffirm in the media--and this time against the background of U.S. troubles with the Tehran affair and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan--Israel's image of an insatiable beggar.

PREPARATORY WORK IN NEGEV COMPLETED

TA021431 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 2 Jan 80 TA

[Text] The construction of the two airfields that will be built by the Americans will begin in the Negev in the coming days. The preparatory work in the area has been completed, the work camps have been set up and roads have been paved. The chief administrator of the project, Brig Gen Moshe Bartov, praised the teams participating in the preparatory work, including the Meqorot Company, the electricity corporation and the IDF.

They completed their work according to the preplanned schedule. The price of constructing the two airfields will be $1.04 billion and 4,400 workers--mainly from Thailand and Portugal--will be employed at the height of work. Brigadier General Bartov noted that for the time being there are no special problems with the workers and the few discipline problems that had existed were solved. Brigadier General Bartov added that it will probably be possible to operate the fields in time, namely, in April 1982, but we will know this for sure in about half a year, after practical work starts.

Regarding the Malhata Field, he said that its construction was delayed due to Bedouin legal suits, but it should be quickly started. The field itself is in the final planning stages.

SHARON 'CONFLICT OF INTEREST' ISSUE HEATING UP

TA030851 Jerusalem POST in English 3 Jan 80 p 3 TA

[By Asher Wallfish]

[Excerpt] Bitterness is building up in the Cabinet against Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon who is insisting on keeping his big Negev ranch, despite the conflict of interest arising from his Cabinet post.

Bitterness has grown so much since the Kennet Committee studied the problem of conflict of interest at the Cabinet's request, that Sharon is now completely isolated in the Cabinet.

The Kennet Committee, while mainly concentrating on problems of general principle, said flatly that Sharon must either quit the Cabinet or give up his farm.

When Prime Minister Menahem Begin brings up the Kennet Committee report at next Sunday's weekly Cabinet session, as he has already announced, not one single minister is expected to speak in Sharon's favor, according to a quick survey of several minister's opinions.

Under the Asher Committee rules on conflict of interest, which officially came into force on October 23, 1977, all ministers and their deputies had to present a statement of business and financial undertakings to the state comptroller, also listing their outside earnings and involvement, if any, in institutions connected with government administration.

Although some ministers, such as Begin himself, had "nothing to declare," others reported to comptroller Yitzhaq Nebenzahl on considerable business activities, which they had to transfer to others, under the new conflict of interest rules.

A neutral source inside the Cabinet told the Jerusalem POST: "The ministers who gave up a great deal under the conflict of interest rules are annoyed at Sharon for clutching firmly on to what they were ready to waive. The ministers who had nothing to lose to begin with feel that he is not playing the game. Instead, he is making his own rules."

In fact, the Asher Committee rules, introduced over 26 months ago, have created two economic classes inside the Cabinet: one, of ministers who placed themselves at a material disadvantage as the price for taking office; and the other, containing only one minister, Sharon, who keeps his portfolio as well as his business, and does not accept the state comptroller's authority.

BEGIN OPPOSED TO SHARON RESIGNATION OVER FARM ISSUE

TA031111 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 3 Jan 80 pp 1, 15 TA

[By Yosef Wachsmann and Gabi Kessler]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin is seeking a solution to the problem of Arik Sharon's farm without Minister Sharon being forced to resign from the government. This was said yesterday by people close to Mr Begin in answer to a question from MA'ARIV.

They also said that for the time being there is no practical solution on the horizon, except for the suggestion that Mr Sharon resign as minister of Agriculture and serve as minister without portfolio with responsibility for settlements. This idea has its opponents because it is contrary to the recommendations of a council of jurists (headed by Justice Max Kenneth) that Sharon cannot serve as a minister at all because of a conflict of interests.

There are many ministers who desire that Sharon resign from the government, but they know that Mr Begin does not seek this. It is quite conceivable, therefore, that at the beginning of next week Minister Sharon will submit a proposal of his own to solve the problem and the government might also establish another committee to look into these proposals.

It has been learned that during 1976 and 1977 the ranch owned by Mr Sharon significantly exceeded its water quota. There is as yet no data on the consumption of water by settlements in Israel during the past 2 years. Data in the quota and consumption lists of the Water Commission show that during the 1977/78 fiscal year Sharon's farm received a water quota of 762,000 cubic meters. However, the ranch consumed 1.1 million cubic meters. This is 45 percent over the quota. In 1976 consumption reached 1.18 million cubic meters, a deviation of about 56 percent.

It should be pointed out that during those years all settlements near the ranch exceeded the quotas but only by 10 percent. Water Commissioner Me'ir Ben-Me'ir told MA'ARIV that up to last year, deviations from the water quota were not an exceptional phenomenon. "In fact, the deviations have become a custom among most large water consumers," he said. He also said that this year there has been a change in consumption trends and, for the first time, there have been no deviations from water quotas.

MODA'I ORDERS TRANSFER OF ELECTRIC CORPORATION

TA031535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 3 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Energy Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i has ordered the employees of his ministry to begin implementing the procedure pertaining to purchasing the concession from the East Jerusalem Electric Corporation. Minister Moda'i expressed his regret about Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek's reservations about the Cabinet's decision to transfer the company's concession on 1 January, 1981. He emphasized that Mr Kollek was one of the initiators of the decision and that representatives of the municipality had been coopted into all the deliberations.

At a vote held this week at the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs on purchasing the East Jerusalem Electric Corporation's concession, Minister Burg voted against it and Ministers Hammer and Sharon, together with the prime minister, voted in favor. This has been learned by our political correspondent. The main consideration for making the decision was that autonomy might be implemented in the territories in 6 months.

Protest Against Company Purchase

TA011144 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 1 Jan 80 TA

[Text] The Judaea and Samaria union on the chambers of commerce protests the Cabinet's decision to buy the concession of the East Jerusalem Electric Corporation. In a convention held in East Jerusalem today, the heads of the Judaea and Samaria chambers of commerce called on the defense minister to change the decision. Our correspondent, Arye Gus, reports that it has also been decided to reconvene--with the participation of the mayors and the national organizations--in order to coordinate the protest activity against the purchase of the corporation.

Bashir Baghruti, one of the West Bank communist leaders, says that canceling the concession of the Arab electric corporation is just like the settlement policy and is aimed at presenting President as-Sadat with faits accomplis with regard to Jerusalem. Baghruti says this step is the same as the settlement campaigns carried out prior to every Begin-As-Sadat summit. This step proves the correctness of his view that self-government is not conducive to self determination for the Palestinians but, on the contrary, a means to deprive them of the right to self-determination.

Electric Corporation Receives Aid

TA031456 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1410 GMT 3 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Jerusalem, 3 January--The East Jerusalem Electric Corporation has received about 400,000 Jordanian dinars from the Baghdad conference's aid fund to cover some of its deficit. A representative of the corporation recently left for Jordan to obtain additional funds. This is reported by the ITIM correspondent in Judaea and Samria.

The ITIM correspondent has also learned, from an authoritative source in the Judaea and Samria military authority, that all the Arab elements dealing with the East Jerusalem Electric Corporation knew a long time ago about the government's intention to purchase the corporation in view of its faulty management, its large deficit and its failure to keep its commitments.

It transpires that government elements talked with the members of the corporation's board of directors many times in the past and they understood that the government's intention is not political, as claimed today, but stems from economic-technical concerns. According to the source, the directors knew that the small corporation was no longer able to keep its commitments of supplying electricity in face of the large development of the Jewish community and the Arab villages which surround Jerusalem.

According to this source, the members of the board of directors understood the limitations of the corporation--which uses very outdated equipment--in meeting the demands of the present economic development.

It was reported that the purchase of the corporation and its rehabilitation, when its concession expires in about a year, will cost the Israeli Government hundreds of millions of Israeli pounds.

HEBRON MAYOR ASKS WEIZMAN TO RETURN HARSINA HILL TO OWNERS

TA031241 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 3 Jan 80 TA

[Excerpts] The mayor of Hebron sent a message to the defense minister at noon demanding that the land on Harsina Hill be returned to its owners. Otherwise, Fahd al-Qawasimi has threatened to submit a complaint to the High Court of Justice.

Clash on Harsina Hill

TA031840 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1735 GMT 3 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Hebron, 3 Jan--This afternoon, the security forces arrested three youths in the course of a brawl between soldiers and dozens of Arabs who marched toward Harsina Hill, which is near Qiryat Arba'. They had intended to hold a protest rally against "the seizure of Arab lands for settlement."

The Arabs gathered in the morning near the Hebron municipality building and headed by the mayors of Hebron and Halhul--Fahd al-Qawasimi and Muhammad Hasan Milhim respectively--marched toward Harsina Hill, where work is being carried out to build the new neighborhood of Qiryat Arba'.

A security forces roadblock prevented their entry onto the hill. The mayors argued with the soldiers at the roadblock, and when some hot-tempered Arabs among the marchers wanted to break through the roadblock by force, the clash between them and the soldiers occurred. One of the soldiers said that a youth tried to snatch his rifle, but he managed to grab hold of him and stop him.

The brawl did not last long. A reinforcement of border policemen dispersed the demonstrators and arrested two of them.

The mayor of Hebron told the ITIM Judaea and Samaria correspondent that about 200 people, including owners of land on Harsina Hill, wanted to hold a protest prayer on the hill but were forcefully prevented from doing so by the army. He added that the landowners are considering appealing to the High Court of Justice on this matter.

Hebron, Halhul Mayors Interrogated

TA041136 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 4 Jan 80 TA

[Text] The Hebron police have opened an investigation concerning the mayors of Hebron and Halhul for their part in the demonstration held on Harsina Hill yesterday. Hebron Mayor Fahd al-Qawasimi and Halhul Mayor Muhammad Milhim were interrogated by the Hebron police this morning. They outrightly denied the accusations raised against them that they participated in assembling an illegal demonstration and that they incited the public. In their report to the police, the mayors said that they had calmly and silently protested the expropriation of land and that they had left the site immediately upon request. Following the interrogation, the mayors were released on bail of 5,000 Israeli pounds each in order to assure that they will report to the police if necessary.

TWO NEW SETTLEMENTS TO BE ESTABLISHED IN GAZA STRIP

TA041144 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 4 Jan 80 p 4 TA

[Excerpt] Two new settlements will be established in the Qatif area in the Gaza Strip this year. They will be Gadid and Gan-Or and will belong to the [NRP affiliated] Hapo'el Hamizrahi Movement, just like the other settlements in the district.

Housing Minister David Levi, who visited the area yesterday, said he hoped that after the planning of the regional center for the bloc is completed, it will also be possible to immediately begin construction.

W. BANK MAYORS END MEETINGS WITH U.S. CONSUL

TA031245 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 3 Jan 80 TA

[Excerpt] The mayors of Judaea and Samaria have decided to boycott the U.S. consul general in East Jerusalem and end their meetings with him. The decision came in the wake of remarks made by the U.S. representative to the autonomy talks, James Leonard, implying that the consul reports to the mayors on the autonomy talks. The manifesto of the mayors was published this morning in the weekly (AT-TALIYAH) affiliated to communist circles in the West Bank.

ASH-SHA'B'S EDITOR REJECTS DISTRIBUTION IN EGYPT

TA031820 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 3 Jan 80 TA

[Text] The editor of the East Jerusalem paper of ASH-SHA'B refuses to have his paper sold in Egypt. The editor, Mahmud Ya'ish, told our correspondent that an Israeli distribution company proposed to have 200 copies transferred to Egypt, but he rejected the idea. The ASH-SHA'B paper supports the PLO and objects to the Camp David accords.

EL AL MANAGER SLAIN IN ISTANBUL BY UNIDENTIFIED TERRORISTS

TA030525 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 3 Jan 80 TA

[Text] It is not yet clear in Istanbul who killed the El Al office manager, Avraham El'azar. Our correspondent Beni Rom says that one of the first assumptions was that this was a Palestinian operation. However, this morning an Istanbul paper said that an anonymous person called their office claiming that a Marxist-Leninist underground organization was responsible for the murder.

From details received during the night at the El Al operations center it appears that Avraham El'azar was hit by 15 Kalachnikov rounds. He was shot last night while on his way home after he finished taking care of an El Al plane that took off for Israel. While driving on the highway he was blocked by a car. The passengers got out of the car and shot him. Two passers-by drove El'azar to the hospital. Istanbul police units found the car used by the killers about 10 kms away from where El'azar was shot. An initial investigation indicated that the car had been stolen. Avraham El'azar's body will be shipped to Israel within a day. He had been an El Al worker for 22 years. His wife and children are now on vacation in Israel.

Leftist Group Claims Responsibility

TA031946 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 3 Jan 80 TA

[Text] A leftist terrorist organization, the anti-Camp David front, admitted responsibility for the [Istanbul] assassination in Beirut today. Police investigators in Istanbul told our correspondent on transport affairs, in a telephone conversation, that in their opinion an extremist Turkish group killed the head of the El Al branch.

DIFFERENCES OVER LOCATION OF EEC OFFICES NOTED

TA041143 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 4 Jan 80 p 1 TA

[By Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has been having a fierce argument with the EEC for the last few weeks over the location of the Common Market representation in Israel.

The heads of the EEC are in favor of having the representation in Tel Aviv in order to avoid recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, and also due to pressure by Arab countries who are opposed to the establishment of the representation in the capital. The Foreign Ministry has clarified to the EEC representatives that if they wish to guarantee diplomatic immunity to their representation, they would have to have it in Jerusalem, where its members would also enjoy the special benefits given to foreign representations stationed in the capital.

The establishment of the representation in Israel has been delayed because of these differences.

'ARAFAT LAUDS RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL'S PEACE NOW, RAKAH

TA040623 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 3 Jan 80 TA

[Text] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat has praised the Israeli Peace Now Movement, even though, in his opinion, it would not make the government change its decisions. 'Arafat said that the Peace Now Movement is important, showing the Begin government's bankruptcy. He also praised the relations between his organization and Rakah as well as what he called the progressive organizations in Israel. He was interviewed by the French communist newspaper, L'HUMANITE DU DIMANCHE. He scoffed at and cursed the Israeli Cabinet, claiming that its policy is intended to turn the Palestinians into the Indians of the Middle East.

ISAREL TO PROSPECT FOR OIL IN DEAD SEA AREA

TA041138 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 Jan 80 p 3 TA

[By Shraga Meqel]

[Text] Oil prospecting will be carried out in the Dead Sea area, the Energy Ministry has decided.

Recommendations by U.S. expert Dr Wilson have determined that there is oil in the area of the Jordan Rift, and so drilling will begin in April.

The Energy Ministry has decided to look for oil in Sadot and Shizaf (in the Haluza area) as well.

In all, 2 billion Israeli pounds will be allotted for oil prospecting. Of that sum, 800 million will come from Israeli resources.

BEGIN RECEIVES ROMANIAN PARTY DELEGATION

TA041212 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1130 GMT 4 Jan 80 TA

[Text] Jerusalem, 4 Jan--A delegation of Romanian Communist Party members, comprising Messrs Mihai Gere, Valter Roman and Dumitru (Hortu), which came for the MAPAM convention, was received today by the prime minister for a talk, in which Israeli-Romanian relations and the international situation were discussed.

The head of the Romanian delegation, Mr Mihai Gere, passed on to the prime minister President Nicolae Ceausescu's greetings and his wishes--to Begin personally and to the people of Israel in general--for peace and prosperity.

Prime Minister Menahem Begin, for his part, asked him to convey his greetings to President Ceausescu, and his wishes for peace and prosperity in Romania and for its people.

Present at the meeting were Romanian Ambassador to Israel Mr Ion Covaci, Mr Zakin, the chairman of the MAPAM Foreign Relations Department and Mr Yosef Govrin, the director of the Foreign Ministry's East European Division.

BRIEFS

ISRAELI ENERGY CONSUMPTION--Israel's energy consumption rose 3 or 4 percent this year, according to the Energy Ministry. This is only half the increase forecast at the beginning of the year. This actually represents some savings, since during the year more cars were imported, more apartments and factories constructed. The cut in energy use is apparently due to the rising price of oil. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Dec 79 TA]

MINT STATISTICS--The Cabinet has printed 7.5 billion pounds in December, 1979. This was reported today by the governor of the Israel Bank, Arnon Gafni. Treasury economists say that the printing only amounted to 6.5 billion pounds. In the last 2 months--all agree--the Cabinet has printed close to 15 billion pounds. Our correspondent Elisha' Spiegelman says that the reasons for the monetary injection were the decreased income from customs and VAT [value added tax] as a result of decreased imports as well as increased government expenditure, mainly for the local authorities. Israel Bank authorities say that the injection of the money demands a larger cut in the government expenditure than had been planned. Alinement MK 'Adi Amoray has said that this data shows that inflation has not been curbed and that the injection of money is now 12 times more than at the time of Minister Simha Ehrlich's tenure [as finance minister]. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 3 Jan 80 TA]

NEW CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSIONER--Mr Nathan Ya'aqovson has been appointed the civil service commissioner. He replaces Dr Avraham Friedman who resigned after serving in his post for 28 months. [Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 1 Jan 80 TA]

ISRAELI POLICE CHIEF--At an official ceremony at the prime minister's office Herzl Shafir was appointed Israel's new police commissioner replacing Commissioner Hayi Tavori. The prime minister thanked the outgoing commissioner for his work in the police. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 31 Dec 79 TA]

AFGHANISTAN

PAP CORRESPONDENT INTERVIEWS DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER KESHTMAND

LD031932 Warsaw PAP in English 1707 GMT 3 Jan 80 LD

[Text] Kabul, 3 Jan, PAP--(By PAP correspondent Ryszard Piekarowicz):

Soltan Ali Keshtmand, the new vice-chairman of the Revolutionary Council of Afghanistan declared in Kabul that one of the most important tasks at present was to restore and preserve the unity of the Afghan revolutionary movement seriously weakened by the adventurist and divisive activity of Hafizollah Amin.

Keshtmand, one of the leading activists of the Afghan People's Democratic Unity Party (formerly the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan) said in a conversation with PAP correspondent that the new leadership had already undertaken steps in that direction and added that the reconstruction of the party after Amin's removal would not be difficult.

"The party does not intend to discuss at present who was right and who was wrong at the time of the conflict in the summer of 1978, some months after the victory of the April Revolution, which ended in the ousting from the party's leadership of Babrak Karmal and other activists of the Parchamist wing (Keshtmand included). The judgment must be left to history," Keshtmand said. "The main problem at present is to unite around the new leadership all members of the party and all progressive and democratic elements in the country.

Keshtmand who was arrested on charges of taking part in an anti-government plot late in the summer of 1978 and released from prison only on December 28, 1979 declared that Amin had used the differences between the two wings in the party (Parchamists and Khalkists) to gradually weaken them and consequently seize full power.

Purges initiated by Amin embraced over 60 percent of the party members and its mass organizations.

Keshtmand said that Amin removed from the army and arrested many officers-members of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and thus weakened the armed forces and made easier the tasks of Afghan counterrevolutionaries supported from the outside.

Keshtmand who also holds the posts of the vice-premier and minister of planning declared that some reforms inaugurated in the past few months by the revolutionary authorities were launched without proper preparations.

"The new leadership does not intend to proceed too fast," Keshtmand said. "The present revolution is not yet a socialist one but a national democratic revolution of non-socialist orientation. The Afghan People's Democratic Unity Party is not only the party of workers but also of all other working classes of Afghanistan. One of the reasons of its success in preparing the April 1978 revolution was that it proved able to become an authentic representative of all democratic classes and strata of the country. At present, the party wants to further play that role," he said.

Reports on Recent Events

LD032320 Warsaw PAP in English 2100 GMT 3 Jan 80 LD

["Afghan leaders about aims of Afghan revolution (by PAP correspondent Ryszard Piekarowicz)"--PAP headline]

[Text] Kabul, 3 Jan, PAP--In connection with the 15th anniversary of the (?proclamation) of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, a meeting of the party Central Committee, the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council, the government and party activists was held here.

During the meeting Babrak Karmal made a speech in which he stressed that the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan had played a leading role in the April 1978 Revolution which resulted in the overthrowing of the feudal rule. He said that at present it was the main force fighting for creating in Afghanistan society free of exploitation. The Afghan revolution is now entering a new stage, the aim of which is to create peaceful working conditions for the Afghan nation based on freedom and democracy. Therefore, the most important task that the party and all social strata in Afghanistan are faced with is to defend the accomplishments of the revolution against internal counter-revolutionary forces and intervention of imperialist forces.

The leader of Afghanistan announced a decision of the revolutionary authorities on an amnesty for all political prisoners.

After dramatic events, life in Kabul has already returned to normal and the new Afghan leadership is undertaking steps to, as was described officially, overcome the crisis brought about by the policy of the former chairman of the Revolutionary Council, Hafizollah Amin.

I spent three days in Kabul and returned to Delhi on January 2 to send from there a report on the developments in Afghanistan as Telex and telephone connections were damaged during the fighting in the center of Kabul on December 27 and the only means of communication with the outside world still on January 2 were the radio stations of Afghan authorities and foreign embassies.

On January 1, which was an ordinary working day there--for new year begins in Afghanistan in March--banks, offices, shops and schools were open. Military patrols disappeared from the center of the city though tanks are stationed outside key objects and armed posts are guarding offices and public institutions. The guards are composed chiefly of Afghan soldiers and students and sometimes of students alone who are armed with machine guns. In several strategic points of Kabul and neighboring areas e.g. at the airport Soviet troops are deployed. Part of the Soviet units arrived in Afghanistan at that country's request still before the coup of December 27 in connection with the danger of a counterrevolution, and part, because of the same reason, and following the request of the new leadership of the Afghan revolution in keeping with the Afghan-Soviet friendship and cooperation treaty of December 5, 1978. [sentence as received]

According to reliable sources in Kabul, the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan on December 27, 1979 during the take-over of the leadership oever the revolution by advocates of the unity of Afghan progressive forces has made it possible to avoid a major bloodspill and prevented the counterrevolutionary elements from exploiting the political crisis within the ruling party for their ends.

The new leadership of the party has let it be known that previously the revolution set itself too far-going aims, incompatible with the objective conditions inside the country. Babrak Karmal, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of Afghanistan since December 27, declared in a programmatic speech on December 29 that the direct goal of the revolution was not the construction of socialism but the completion of anti-feudal and anti-imperialist national democratic transformations.

The revolutionary council has appealed to the anti-government rebels to lay down arms and return without fear to normal life. Simultaneously, the council called on the Islamic mojahedins, who, as the Kabul sources explain, represent a patriotic and anti-imperialist part of anti-government forces and whose hostile attitude towards the revolution was evoked in a large measure by the distortions of the previous leadership, to send their envoys for talks with representatives of the council. The council also expressed readiness to admit delegates of Islamic mojahedings into the leadership of the revolution. Radio Kabul broadcasts regularly the appeal of the council to mojahedins and other rebels.

The sources of the Afghan People's Democratic Unity Party inform that Hafizollah Amin was overthrown, firstly, because he applied brutal repression which harmed the good name of the party and weakened the revolution causing the number of its supporters [to] decrease, and, secondly, because he was gradually breaking and liquidating the party itself sending its members to jail. He was doing that driven either by the pure thirst for power or by other sinister motives mentioned by Babrak Karmal in his speech to the nation in which he said that Amin was acting like an agent of imperialist forces.

The new leadership of the revolution has so far released several thousand political prisoners and in the nearest days will free all of them, except for a minor group responsible for the repressions and active counter-revolutionaries who directed the terrorist actions. Babrak Karmal has announced that the Revolutionary Council will soon restore democratic freedoms in the country, including the freedom to congregate, hold peaceful demonstrations in the streets as well as to form progressive and patriotic political parties or mass and social organizations.

Judging by the reactions of passers-by in Kabul, the population received with relief the overthrow of Amin. Representatives of the new authorities emphasize that one of the most important tasks facing the revolution is to regain confidence of those circles which turned away because of past deformations. The return to the Revolutionary Council of Babrak Karmal and representatives of the Parchamist wing has automatically drawn the progressive Afghan intelligentsia to the people's democratic government because before the revolution Karmal's grouping had been active among teachers, students, university lecturers and engineers.

Similarly, the reemergence of the group of military leaders--participants and commanders of the April insurrection of 1978, including former Defence Minister 'Abdol Qader--should ensure the new leadership the support of considerable part of the officers removed from the army and subjected to repressions in the days of Amin.

AFP CITES GUERRILLAS ON SOVIET TROOP MOVEMENT

BK031215 Hong Kong AFP in English 1144 GMT 3 Jan 80 BK

[By Erwan Jourand]

[Text] Peshawar, on the Pakistani-Afghan frontier, 3 Jan (AFP)--Russian troops who moved into Kabul to back up the pro-Soviet coup by Babrak Kamal did not know why they had been sent to Afghanistan, according to people who fled here from the mountainous country.

Afghan political/military opposition movements, which have their headquarters in this northern Pakistani town, told AFP that the Soviet soldiers were mainly from the Muslim Republic of Tadzhikistan or white troops from the western Soviet republics.

Most of them spoke the two Persian dialects in use in Afghanistan, particularly the official language Pashto.

Leaders of the Muslim Afghan guerrillas here said these soldiers were regularly insulted by citizens of Kabul. Several incidents had occurred. The most serious, they said, took place Tuesday [1 January] in a mosque in the city. A teacher in the Koranic school, who had urged his pupils to take up the "jihad" (the Islamic holy war) against communism, was arrested by Soviet troops. The arrest touched off clashes between Muslims from the mosque and Soviet troops in which several people were killed on both sides. The mosque was closed by the Soviet military authorities.

This, coupled with the killing of Russian soldiers by Muslim guerrillas, had led the Soviet military command to order the disarming of all Afghans, both members of the regular Afghan Army and even militants of the new Afghanistan strong man, Babrak Karmal whom the Russians dared not trust, said the source.

The result was that only Soviet troops were armed in Kabul.

Afghan guerrilla leaders here believe that the Russians only control the capital, Kabul, and a few provincial centres to which they have sent soldiers aboard armoured troop carriers, particularly Jalalabad in the south and Herat in the west.

The Russians also hold a few little towns in the north of Afghanistan, near the Soviet-Afghan frontier. Troops who arrived by land have set up tented camps in the region and dug in their tanks to protect them from guerrillas using anti-tank weapons seized from the Afghan Army.

But Soviet troops were having great difficulty extending their grip to the whole of the country because of the poor state of the roads and the heavy snow.

Muslim guerrillas also said that during the December 27 coup violent fighting took place between troops and supporters of the former President Hafizollah Amin for control of the Ministry of Telecommunications. The building of this ministry, vital in a country with so few roads as Afghanistan, was believed to have been completed destroyed and 70 Russian soldiers were killed in the fighting.

AFGHAN SOLDIERS DEFECT, JOIN MUSLIM REBELS

PA031456 Paris AFP in Spanish 1424 GMT 3 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Islamabad, 3 Jan (AFP)--Large groups of Afghan soldiers have deserted, taken their weapons and joined the Muslim rebels in several Afghan provinces, according to a communique issued here today by Hezbi Islami Afghanistan, one of the two important Afghan Muslim rebel groups. The communique also reports acts of resistance and combat between communists and Muslims and between Soviets and Afghans in several provinces in Afghanistan.

AFGHAN ARMY, REBELS COUNTERATTACK AGAINST SOVIETS

PA031851 Paris AFP in English 1839 GMT 3 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Peshawar (Pakistan), 3 Jan (AFP)--The Afghan Army and Muslim rebels have launched a fierce counterattack against Soviet troops occupying the provincial capital of Jalalabad, 175 km (110 miles) east of Kabul, the Afghan rebel organization Hezdi Islami announced.

The communique said district tribesmen were dug in around Jalalabad with the support of army infantry, armor, and artillery. Fierce fighting was going on between pro-rebel and Soviet troops, it added.

About 5,000 rebels were involved in the fighting, the communique said. According to eyewitnesses, there were numerous Soviet tanks already in Jalalabad, and others on the highway from Kabul.

FORMER KING CALLS ON SOVIET FORCES TO LEAVE

NC031622 Paris AFP in English 1605 GMT 3 Jan 80 NC

[Text] Rome, 3 Jan (AFP)--Ex-King Mohammed Zahir Shah of Afghanistan today called on Soviet forces to leave Afghanistan so that the Afghan people could decide their own fate democratically.

In a message to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, the former king said that it would be "desirable that the Soviet occupation army should completely evacuate the country and leave to the Afghan people the concern of deciding their destiny democratically and in complete freedom."

The ex-king, who has been living in Italy following his overthrow in 1973, said that "any interference in the internal affairs of an independent country is an action that has to be condemned."

"When this action," the message said, "is followed by armed intervention in the form of invasion, that becomes open aggression against national sovereignty and remains contrary to all accepted norms of international relations."

The ex-king is convalescing here after eye surgery.

AFP CITES DIVERSE SOURCES ON FIGHTING SITUATION

BK041108 Hong Kong AFP in English 1044 GMT 4 Jan 80 BK

[By Erwan Jourand]

[Text] Torkham, on the Afghan-Pakistan border, 4 Jan (AFP)--Soviet troops battled Muslim guerrillas and rebel Afghan soldiers last night and into this morning at the important Afghan city of Jalalabad, near the Pakistan frontier, a Pakistani source said at this border post.

Meanwhile, a picture of fierce resistance across Afghanistan to the Soviet invasion from mixed, isolated forces of Muslim guerrillas, Afghan soldiers and the general populace emerged from reports reaching Pakistan.

The Pakistani source here said the scope of the combat at Jalalabad, Afghanistan's fourth city with about 25,000 people, was not known. Nor was it possible to determine the extent of the fighting elsewhere, as rebels take two or three days to reach here with fragmentary accounts. Traffic between Pakistan and Afghanistan on the Kabul road was practically nil today. The road to the Afghan capital passes through Jalalabad. The bus from Peshawar, Pakistan, to Kabul carried one lonely passenger this morning.

Sources from the Afghan military forces insurgent against the Soviets said that two Afghan divisions stationed to the south and east of Kabul had not surrendered as of 48 hours ago and were preparing to fight encircling Soviet troops. These were the 7th Afghan division from Rishkur and the 4th armored division from Puli-Charki.

Colonel Mohammed Sarwar, the former commander of the 4th armored who fled to Pakistan several months ago, told AFP that according to his information armed resistance was taking place not only near Jalalabad, but also around Chaga Sarai in Nuristan, at Seta Kandau in Paktia, in Badakshan (northeast Afghanistan) and Hazaradjat, central Afghanistan.

The Pakistani newspaper JANG reported that Soviet paratroops had been dropped into Badakshan, where their advance was meeting heavy resistance.

Colonel Sarwar appealed to his brother officers to fight the "annexation of the country" and "resist the invader everywhere." He called on them to recognize that the government of Babrak Karmal, installed by the Soviets last week, "was made up of the same group that provoked the revolution of April 1978." The Soviet-backed government of Nur Mohammad Taraki was overthrown last September by Hafizollah Amin, who was himself overthrown and executed in last week's coup. The Soviets were thought to have lost interest in Amin partly because of his inability to damp down the guerrilla war with Muslim insurgents.

Former King Zahir Shah of Afghanistan, who lives in exile in Rome, sent a message today to eight rebel leaders at Peshawar, asking them to unite immediately, an informed source said in Islamabad, the Pakistani capital. He urged them to "consolidate the national and Islamic cause" to "achieve unity of goal and action."

REBELS 'CONTINUING RESISTANCE' AGAINST SOVIET OFFENSIVE

TA031551 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 3 Jan 80 TA

[From "Radio Newsreel"]

[Text] There is little information about the situation in Afghanistan itself, but the Indian news agency UNI, quoting diplomatic sources in Kabul, says that despite the offensive launched by Soviet troops against rebel forces in eastern Afghanistan, the rebels are continuing their resistance. Richard Oppenheimer reports from Delhi:

[Begin Oppenheimer recording] The UNI correspondent, who was refused entry into Afghanistan at Kabul airport last night, quotes diplomats there as saying that Soviet troops are moving not only into Paktai Province, but also into the upper reaches of the Konar valley east of Kabul, where fresh trouble has erupted. Trouble is growing too, the diplomat said, in other provinces such as Badakhshan in the north, and Qandahar in the south.

Soviet troops have had some success in certain areas but were experiencing difficulty in their operations against the rebels in the mountainous north and east, the diplomat said, because of heavy snow in certain areas. The UNI correspondent said: He was told a group of top Soviet generals had been flown into Kabul to assess the present situation and some top Soviet military officials had already gone to the main trouble spots to oversee the anti-rebel operation. The diplomat also told the UNI man that a Soviet Embassy official, Mr Vasiliy (Savronchuk), had set up office in the presidential palace in Kabul to coordinate the activities of the large number of Soviet advisers now in the country.

One move being made, the diplomat said, is the restructuring of the Afghan police on the Soviet pattern. The plan is apparently to equip the Afghan police eventually with automatic weapons and some armored personnel carriers in the hope that they will gradually be able to take over the handling of the security in the capital.

BANGLADESH

STATE JUTE MINISTER RELIEVED OF DUTIES

BK031714 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Jan 80 BK

[Text] According to an official announcement in Dacca, the state minister for jute, Mr Nur Mohammad Khan, has been relieved of his responsibilities from today.

PRO-MOSCOW COMMUNIST PARTY BACKS SOVIET AFGHAN ROLE

BK041030 Hong Kong AFP in English 1015 GMT 4 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Dacca, Jan 4 (AFP)--The pro-Moscow Communist Party of Bangladesh, CPB, in a statement endorsed the Soviet military action in Afghanistan saying the presence of Russian troops was in conformity with the December 5, 1978 friendship treaty between the two countries.

The statement released to the press last night said the Soviet Union has rushed military assistance to Afghanistan in response to a call given by the Kabul Government. It said the Soviet assistance was also in conformity with Clause 51 of the UN Charter. The CPB also condemned Pakistan for inciting trouble on the Afghan border to thwart the success of the revolution brought about by the late President Nur Mohammad Taraki.

This is the first pro-Soviet statement in Bangladesh since last month's Russian military intervention in Afghanistan and overthrow of the Taraki [as received] government. During the last few days about half a dozen rallies and demonstrations were held in Dacca and a large number of statements issued to the press condemning what they called Russian aggression on Kabul.

STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE OUTSIDE SOVIET CHITTAGONG CONSULATE

BK041032 Hong Kong AFP in English 0940 GMT 4 Jan 80 BK

[Text] Dacca, Jan 4 (AFP)--About 500 supporters of an Islamic students organization demonstrated yesterday in front of the Soviet Consulate in the southeastern port city of Chittagong.

They were protesting against Moscow's military intervention in Afghanistan, according to reports reaching here.

The official news agency BSS said the demonstrators belonged to the Islamic Chattra Shivir, a student wing of the rightist political party Jamiat-E-Islam.

MOB SHOUTING ANTI-PAKISTANI SLOGANS DISRUPT CRICKET GAME

BK040630 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 4 Jan 80 BK

[Text] The government has ordered an executive inquiry into the incidents at the Chittagong stadium yesterday.

A pressnote issued in Dacca last night said in protest against certain misbehavior and (?interpellate) utterances alleged to have been made by some Pakistani cricket players yesterday, a mob consisting of about 150 persons, mostly students, forcibly entered the Chittagong stadium at about 1100 and shouted anti-Pakistani slogans which excited the huge number of spectators assembled to witness the cricket match. The pressnote said that at lunchbreak another mob entered the field and prevented the resumption of the game. The police however dispersed the mob. At about 1330 about 1,000 persons entered the field by breaking open the gate, shouting anti-Pakistani slogans when the play was on. The police had to resort to a lathi [baton] charge to clear the ground. The mob was hurling brickbats [word indistinct] causing injuries to many police officers. The mob also set fire to the (?stands) which was later extinguished by the fire brigade. As the situation was (?causing concern), 20 rounds of teargas shells were fired to disperse the violent mob. The players of both the teams were safely taken into [words indistinct]. Six persons have been taken into custody.

At about 1400 A violent mob, numbering about 2,000, attacked the player's (?stand) from the western part of the pavillion hurling brickbats, stones and causing injuries to the deputy commissioner of Chittagong, two deputy commissioners of police, three assistant police commissioners, five inspectors, two sergeants, three (?armed) subinspectors and eight police constables. The injuries to the Chittanong deputy commissioner and two police constables were very serious.

The pressnote says: In order to save the lives of the players and to protect government property, police opened in all 70 teargas shells and 38 rounds of fire. Two police vehicles were damaged and one police motorcycle was set on fire by the mob. No injury due to the firing has been received so far.

Meanwhile an announcement by the Bangladesh sports control board in Dacca yesterday said that the cricket match, scheduled to be played at Dacca stadium between Bangladesh and Pakistan from tomorrow, has been cancelled. Ticket money will be refunded and the refund schedule will be announced later.

INDIA

DELHI CITES REPORT ON U.S. SEEKING PRC AID TO ASSIST PAKISTAN

BK040410 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0243 GMT 4 Jan 80 BK

[Text] PTI [Press Trust of India], quoting official sources in Washington, says the United States proposes to strengthen Pakistan's military capability with the cooperation of China. The U.S. administration will assist Pakistan in modernizing its armed forces, particularly its air force and land-based equipment including tanks. The immediate move for a joint effort with Beijing to provide military aid to Pakistan is said to be to overcome the legal difficulties in the way of direct American assistance.

The U.S. Defense Secretary, Harold Brown, is proceeding to China this weekend for urgent consultations with the Chinese leaders. Mr Brown's talks in Beijing will not only cover military assistance to Pakistan, but also secure the cooperation of China, including arms sale.

FURTHER REPORT ON FIRST DAY OF PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

BK031616 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Jan 80 BK

[Excerpts] In spite of inclement weather in northern states, about 55 percent of the electorate exercised their poll in the first phase of elections in 244 Lok Sabha constituencies today. The polling was uniformly heavy in the southern states and the union territories. The states which reported a low poll include Uttar Pradesh and Crissa. In Delhi, which had the coldest day of the season with the mercury dropping to 12 degrees Celsius, the turnout of voters touched 60 to 70 percent. Except for a few incidents in Uttar Pradesh, voting was violence-free and peaceful.

According to reports filed by our correspondents from all over the country, the highest turnout of 80 percent was from the Port Blair and South Andaman constituencies in the Incobar Andaman. In Chandigarh it was 75 percent followed by Pondicherry, 60 to 70 percent, and Arunachal Pradesh, 65 percent. Some rural areas in Delhi reported 80 percent turnout.

Polling in the eastern states was uniformly good with Nagaland reporting 60 to 65 percent turnout; Manipur, over 60 percent; and Meghalaya, over 40 percent. Southern states, too, had a good turnout. In Tamil Nadu about 60 percent of the voters exercised their franchise. In Karnataka, it was between 50 to 60; and in Kerala, 50 to 55.

Fifty of the 85 Uttar Pradesh constituencies went to the poll today, and reports from there indicate that the percentage of voters who cast their votes was 40. In Gujarat, polling for the 13 Lok Sabha constituencies ended peacefully with 45 percent votes being polled. The 1-day polling in Orissa was also peaceful, and the turnout was between 35 to 40 percent. In Rajasthan, polling concluded peacefully this afternoon for 12 seats and partially in three constituencies. The AIR [All India Raido] Jaipur correspondent says that according to first reports, polling was estimated to be around 45 percent. In Madhya Pradesh 24 out of the 40 Lok Sabha constituencies went to the poll today. The turnout was reported at 50 percent. In Mahrashtra, about 50 percent of voters exercised their franchise in the 26 constituencies.

In Jammu and Kashmir, over 30 percent voting was recorded in the three constituencies of Udampur, Anantnag and Baramulla. The polling was peaceful.

Today's polling covered 244 constituencies spread over 18 states and all the union territories. The second phase of polling is scheduled for Sunday.

Violence Reported

BK031618 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Jan 80 BK

[Text] In Uttar Pradesh, three persons were killed and eight injured in Amroha in Muradabad district today in a clash between supporters of rival candidates contesting the Lok Sabha elections. A PTI report from Lucknow says the trouble started when an attempt was made to prevent women voters from casting their votes. At two of the polling stations of the Amroha constituency, polling has been adjourned following the incidents. The new polling days will be fixed later.

In an incident at Chaprauli in Bagpath parliamentary constituencey [where Mr Charan Singh is contesting] about half a dozen people were injured in a clash. The clash ocurred when people belonging to rival groups were proceeding to a polling booth. Immediately after the incident, the police provided protection to Mr Ramchander Vikil of the Congress-I.

Delhi: Two Killed

BK031624 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Jan 80 BK

[Text] In Andhra Pradesh, curfew has been imposed in the old city areas of Hyderabad following clashes between supporters of two political parties. One person was stabbed to death and 33 injured in the clashes. Police burst teargas shells to quell the violent mob. The city police commissioner told the AIR [All India Radio] Hyderabad correspondent that additional police parties have been deployed in the area. Curfew will remain in force till 1000 tomorrow. Election meetings have been banned in the Char Minar area.

In a separate incident in Karimnagar district of the state, one person died and seven others were injured when police opened fire on a violent mob of CPI-ML [Communist Party of India-Marxists-Leninists] workers who attacked the police station at (Silsila). The workers alleged that one of their leaders, Mr J. Chelapatirao, was detained at the police station. Reports say that he was wanted by the police in some cases.

CURFEW IMPOSED IN ASSAM TOWN FOLLOWING VIOLENT INCIDENTS

BK040747 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 4 Jan 80 BK

[Text] In Assam, an indefinite curfew was clamped last night in the oil town of Digboi following incidents of violence and arson. Reports reaching Gauhati say about 10 persons were injured in the incidents. Some persons had been taken into custody.

Patrolling by the police and the CRP [Central Reserve Police] personnel has been intensified in the affected areas. The situation is now reported to be under control.

MALDIVES

PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN COLOMBO ON PRIVATE VISIT

BK041117 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 4 Jan 80 BK

[Text] The president of the Maldives, Mr Abdul Gayoom, accompanied by Madame Gayoom, arrived in Sri Lanka yesterday on a week's private visit. They were met at the airport by the minister of foreign affairs, Mr A.C.S. Hameed. On Monday the president of the Maldives will make a courtesy call on President Jayewardene.

PAKISTAN

KARACHI RADIO ON HAQ'S APPEAL FOR DONATIONS TO AFGHAN REFUGEES

BK040726 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1715 GMT 3 Jan 80 BK

[Unattributed news commentary]

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq's appeal to the people for generous donations for the relief of Afghan refugees in Pakistan must have received an encouraging response. Indeed the people of Pakistan have already realized the miserable conditions of the Afghan refugees who have taken shelter in this country. The president has rightly pointed out that the brothers from a neighboring country are in dire need of help after the onset of winter.

The president who was speaking at a simple ceremony to mark the donation of 1,000 quilts from the fouji [soldiers] foundation headquarters yesterday, expressedly announced that this noble example of brotherly donation would be emulated by other organizations and well to do people. The president also pointed out that neighboring Muslim countries, other countries and the United Nations were cooperating with Pakistan in providing relief to the refugees. This was an enormous task and needed the help and assistance of the entire world. Individual efforts, however insignificant, can contribute a great deal in meeting the challenge. Even small donations can go a long way toward mitigating the sufferings of the people.

Pakistan has made it clear to the world that it is always guided by human considerations. It has also pointed out several times, and emphatically too, that it is not interested in big power rivalries. Believing in the principle of peaceful coexistence and noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries, Pakistan [words indistinct]. Pakistan has been created in the name of Islam which believes in peace. It has been consistently [words indistinct] to create a climate of understanding in the world. In the past, for various compelling considerations, the country had to take certain steps. But gradually it has started vigorous steps to identify itself with the emerging nations of the Third World.

During the Havana summit, Pakistan has succeeded in becoming a member of the nonalined movement. This shows the confidence and faith of the nonalined states in the integrity of Pakistan. Pakistan's full membership of the nonalined movement indeed marks the beginning of a new era in the history of the movement. But Pakistan's association with the movement was not only for the sake of (?a form). Pakistan earnestly believes in the continued adherence to the policy of peace and security. Pakistan desires to have normal, happy relations with all countries of the world and it hopes that all countries would respect the independence, integrity and solidarity of other nations. This is the basic principle which has to be respected by all states.

Unfortunately, in the past and even today, this principle of coexistence is sometimes ignored or violated. Its violation engenders feelings of apathy. It also creates a number of major irritants which can eventually disrupt the peace of the world. As we know the situation in the Middle East continues to remain grave because of the intransigent attitude of the Israeli [station off air few seconds]. Pakistan has been forced into a situation which [words indistinct] large number of Afghan refugees who are now here. If these refugees go back to their own country, Pakistan [words indistinct]. It is in this context that President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq appeals to the people to come forward with their generous assistance. It is rightly hoped that the people of Pakistan would warmly respond to this call.

SRI LANKA

GOVERNMENT CALLS ON USSR TO WITHDRAW FROM AFGHANISTAN

BK031347 Hong Kong AFP in English 1334 GMT 3 Jan 80 BK

[Excerpt] Colombo, 3 Jan (AFP)--Sri Lanka today called upon the Soviet Union to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan immediately.

The Foreign Ministry in a communique said the Sri Lanka Government is strongly opposed to the interference by the Soviet Union or any other country in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, a member of the non-aligned movement.

The ministry said "consistent with our commitment to the principle of non-alignment, we support the sovereign right of the people of Afghanistan to determine their own destiny free from foreign interference."

"Outside interference or aggression cannot be condoned under any circumstances. Therefore the government and people of Sri Lanka call upon the Soviet Union to withdraw its military contingent from the territory of Afghanistan immediately," it said.

The Foreign Ministry communique came shortly after the Soviet Ambassador Mr Aleksey S. Pasyutin called on the secretary to the Foreign Ministry Mr W.T. Jayasinghe on a summons from the ministry.

Official sources said Mr Jayasinghe apprised the ambassador about Sri Lanka Government's views opposing Soviet interference in Afghanistan and calling for the withdrawal of Soviet troops.

Earlier today the cabinet presided by President J.R. Jayewardene discussed the situation in Afghanistan and asked Foreign Minister A.C.S. Hameed to discuss the matter with the Soviet ambassador.

Foreign Ministry sources said Mr Jayasinghe met the ambassador as Mr Hameed had to go to the airport to meet the Maldivian president who was coming here on a private visit.

JAYEWARDENE WARNS OF CONSEQUENCES OF OIL PRICE HIKE

BK031121 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 3 Jan 80 BK

[Excerpt] President Jayewardene yesterday warned the country about the consequences of higher oil prices. At the present rate, he said, 7,000 million rupees would be needed this year for oil import and this large drain was bound to cause serious hardships and constraint. The government would naturally have to take notice of the increasing oil prices.

Mr Jayewardene, who was addressing a public rally at Mihintale, also spoke of the need to curtail subsidies and concentrate on development because the question of employment, one of the country's major problems, was tied to development. He said there was no need for the people to hide from facts or resort to force. People were free to point out shortcomings in the government. They had freedom to select a government of their choice.